

THE TIMES

Inside

No Breaks
BBC chairman Stuart Young argues against advertising on Auntie



Prey on the mind
Falconry is taking off as a sporting concern in Britain

Monday

Fearless judgement
Imposimato's tough stand on crime in Italy has made him a target

Bending their ears
The two women who are vowing Washington with their lobbying

Portfolio

£22,000 to be won

There is £22,000 available to be won in today's *Times Portfolio* competition; the weekly prize of £20,000 and the daily £2,000. Yesterday's £2,000 prize was shared by two winners, Mr Sean Costello of Sheffield and Miss Sheona Taylor of Manchester each received £1,000. Portfolio list, page 26; week's price changes, information service, back page.

Pound rises against weak dollar

The pound gained 2 1/2 cents against a weak dollar to close at \$1.2535 in London yesterday, its highest closing level since September 24. Its average value against leading currencies rose 0.7 to 75.7. Sterling's improvement has raised hopes of a cut in base rates next week from 10.5 per cent.

Cardinal's study
Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, is flying to Ethiopia tomorrow for a study of the famine conditions and aid efforts.

Premiums rising
Several large insurance companies are expected to raise the premiums on their house contents policies after the Prudential's announcement of doubled rates for some inner city areas.

Doctors at risk
Incompetent and inconsiderate doctors are more likely to be found guilty of serious professional misconduct and to run the risk of curbs on their right to practise.

Execution glee
A crowd cheered and waved placards outside a prison in Raleigh, North Carolina, as a 52-year-old grandmother was executed for murder.

'Toe' sentences
Three men who tortured a newsgirl, who had his toe cut off, and his wife were jailed for a total of 46 years.

Another draw
The twenty-first world chess championship game between Anatoly Karpov, the holder, and Gary Kasparov, the challenger, ended in another draw, the twelfth in succession.

United win
Two goals by Gordon Strachan inspired Manchester United to a 4-2 win over the first division leaders, Arsenal, at Old Trafford last night, after they had trailed 2-1 at half-time.

Leader page, 9
Letters: On religious education, from Dr B. G. Watson, and Mr N. Walter; jobs, from Dr David Owen, MP; Mrs Gandhi, from Mr B. A. Baldry, and Mr M. S. Dang.
Leading articles: CBI; Nicaragua; Constable country; Obituary, page 10.
Mr Graeme Shankland, Colonel S. M. Lovell.
Classified, pages 31, 32.
Independent schools

Home News	2-4	Diary	8
Overseas	4-5	Law Report	10
Arts	23	Religion	10
Arts	6	Sale Room	2
Bridge	6	Science	10
Business	21-27	Services	28-30
Chess	4	TV & Radio	32, 33
Court	10	Weather	34
Crossword	34		

Tight security as Thatcher leaves Heathrow

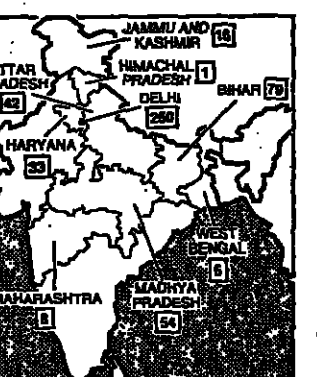
Sikhs butchered in mob attacks on trains to Delhi

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

The appalling Hindu vengeance being exacted from the Sikh community in India after the assassination of Mrs Indira Gandhi continued yesterday at a somewhat lower level. But a new horror came to light as trains, which had been travelling overnight, began to arrive in the Delhi area.

As they rolled in, mobs of hooligans halted them, boarded the carriages and killed any Sikhs they found. At least 28 died on trains bound for the capital. Another 26 were killed at small stations in Haryana state nearby.

Similar events took place at the palatial Charbagh railway station in Lucknow, capital of Uttar Pradesh. Police opened fire to disperse the mob before two were killed and 12 injured, some seriously. Later, 50 Sikhs were given shelter at the police station.



The number of deaths in the nationwide intercommunal incidents in the past three days has risen to 500, according to news agency estimates. The United News of India reported that 250 of the dead were in Delhi, which has been much the worst hit.

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NCB encourages pre-Christmas return to work

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The National Coal Board last night stepped up its campaign to win over striking miners by presenting the blunt message that there will be no further concessions and urging a return to work.

A special issue of the board's newspaper *Coal News* is being delivered to the homes of all 180,000 miners and in the meantime the board is highlighting the financial advantages of returning to work before Christmas within the next two weeks, which would allow striking miners to qualify for lump sum payments of up to £650.

Suggestions earlier in the day that the board was preparing to offer a £650 "Christmas bonus" to induce strikers to return to work produced strong protest from working miners in the Midlands and led the board to quickly issue a clarification that the payments represent a collection of allowances including holiday payment which are normally paid.

In a separate development Mr Ian MacGregor, the coal board's chairman, agreed to meet the British Association of Colliery Management on Monday to hear its "extreme concern" over the management's performance this week.

Mr Alan Wilson, general secretary of the 15,000-strong BACM which represents senior coal board officials, said that they would seek assurances from Mr MacGregor and from Mr James Cowan, his deputy, that steps would be taken to rectify the board's poor public performance.

The managers' union is critical of the handling of the Michael Eaton affair and Mr Wilson said the last straw was the treatment of Mr Geoffrey Kirk, the director of public relations, a BACM member, who was sent on leave and is expected to take early retirement.

A Christmas pay "bonanza" depends on miners returning to work by November 19 at the latest and working four full weeks. The main components are payments for holidays, Bank holidays and agreed rest days which amount to about £300. There would be a further payment of £100 which would represent back pay on the annual pay award, but that is dependent on the National Union of Mineworkers accepting the 5.2 per cent offer.

The payout would also include the £70 annual Christmas bonus and the £650 would apply to top-earning face workers. Other underground workers would get £544 and top surface workers £571.

Coal board officials were yesterday heartened by an apparent boost to the return to work impetus in the barometer coalfield, north Derbyshire, where a total of 194 strikers were said to have returned to work this week. However, they were urging against any great optimism that the drift back could be the start of a serious crack in the strike.

● The Russians have denied reports that they are operating a coal embargo on Britain in support of the miners, the Foreign Office said last night.

Labour in dilemma over pit rallies

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Arthur Scargill and Mr Peter Walker yesterday put Mr Neil Kinnock and the Labour Party on the spot over the miners' strike.

The strikers' leader attended a meeting with representatives of Labour's national executive committee and said afterwards that they had agreed to ask Mr Kinnock to attend five regional rallies in support of the striking miners.

But Mr James Mortimer, the party's general secretary, said that Mr Kinnock had left for Delhi, to attend Mrs Gandhi's funeral, and he could not commit the leader to attend the rallies. The only agreement had been that Mr Mortimer should attend all the rallies "as a symbol" of Labour support.

Mr Scargill appeared more enthusiastic, saying: "The view of the Labour Party today is that it would be advantageous for Mr Kinnock to be present at the rallies." He went further and said that he would like to see many members of the Shadow Cabinet attending as well.

The rallies are to be held in Edinburgh on Tuesday, Sheffield on Thursday, Newcastle upon Tyne tomorrow week, Aberavon on Tuesday week, and in Birmingham on Wednesday week.

Mr Mortimer said: "I can't speak for the commitments of individual members of the Shadow Cabinet". When asked whether he would like Mr Kinnock to join him at the rallies, he said: "This entirely depends on Mr Kinnock's commitments. I can't answer for him."

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, yesterday continued to exploit that dilemma with yet another open letter to Mr Stanley Orme, Labour's spokesman on energy. He asked a series of questions which boiled down to a simple choice between the ballot and Mr Scargill.

If Labour chose Mr Scargill, he said, "you will be in pretty unpleasant company both at home and abroad".

Lonrho sells Fraser stake for £138m

By William Kay, City Editor

Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, chairman of Lonrho, yesterday ended a six-year battle over the future of Harrods, the Knightsbridge department store, when he sold Lonrho's stake in House of Fraser for £138.5m cash. House of Fraser owns 107 department stores in Britain, including Harrods.

The buyer of the 46 million Fraser shares, equal to 29.9 per cent of the total, is AlFayed Investment and Trust (UK), which is controlled by three Egyptian brothers, Mohamed, Salah and Ali Al-Fayed.

The brothers have worldwide interests in ships, hotels, banks, property and oil. They own the Ritz Hotel in Paris, and have been rumoured to be interested in buying the London Ritz.

In 1975 they bought a £7m stake in Lonrho, and Mr Mohamed Al-Fayed became a director. But they sold that stake within two years.

A spokesman for the Al-Fayed family said yesterday: "We are proud to be associated with House of Fraser and are looking forward to working with the board and to developing further the full potential of the group, whose major asset, Harrods, is undoubtedly the most famous and respected store in the world, as well as being a great British institution."

Arts Council proposes linking of grants to box office returns

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The Arts Council is heading for another controversy over its funding policies with plans to make radical changes in the way it distributes funds to the main theatre, music and opera companies.

The council is planning to drop the "safety net" system which guarantees companies against loss. In its place will come simple cash grants, and a message to the companies that they will be able to keep any profits they make, but will have to survive any losses on their own.

The shift towards a more box-office oriented system will be welcomed by some of the large companies. The National Theatre has complained that the deficit financing system encouraged bad housekeeping and punished financially suc-

cessful companies such as itself which must hand profits to the Arts Council.

But other companies are likely to oppose the idea, which may be introduced in 1986. The main criticism of the scheme, as the council appreciates, is that it could give the council a more direct role in deciding the output of a company. By linking reward to box-office returns, it may also work against the production of new writers, whose early work almost invariably attracts uncommercial audiences.

Council officers who are working on the idea are aware that it could become as controversial as this year's shift in arts funds to the regions. But a two-day meeting of the council earlier this week called

for a further report on switching to the new system.

Given the dissatisfaction within the council about the deficit financing principle, a change in the way the council distributes funds seems certain. The council would be unlikely to attempt to make decisions on individual productions, but would offer a fixed amount to cover various cost centres in the large companies it supports.

It would then be left to the companies to make their budgets meet their relevant targets and, if their productions are a success, keep the profits.

Mr Luke Rittner, the council's secretary-general, has been known to be an opponent of deficit funding, and has said that he regarded it as a way of supporting poor management.

MPs asked to fight munitions job losses

By Patricia Clough

Unions were yesterday preparing a political drive to modify the privatisation of the Royal Ordnance Factories as the Government formally announced 1,819 redundancies in four of the 13 establishments. Some union leaders predicted strikes at the factories.

Directors of the four plants broke the news to the union conveners yesterday morning. Notices were pinned up in the factories and letters sent to the staff.

At Bishopston, near Glasgow, they were told that 602 jobs would be lost by the end of next month, at Birtley, near Newcastle upon Tyne, 595, at Chorley, 477, and at Blackburn, Lancashire, 145; all at the end of March.

In London, the Ministry of Defence emphasized that these were the "worst case" figures. If the factories got more orders in the next few months, fewer jobs would be lost.

Union leaders in some of the factories ordered an immediate overtime ban. "It looks bad if some people are being made redundant while others are earning money working overtime," Mr Gerry Ferguson, the General and Municipal Workers' Union convenor at Birtley, where one third of the jobs are threatened, said.

The redundancies affect areas where unemployment is more than 20 per cent, Mr Allen Adams, Labour MP for Paisley North, said the job losses at Bishopston were a "bloody disaster" for the town, where unemployment was 60 per cent in parts.

Ministry of Defence officials said the redundancies were mainly due to work on the joint British-German-Italian 155mm FH70 field howitzer project being switched to West Germany. That, they said, was unavoidable as Britain had already done more than its fair share of the work. Orders had also dropped off because the British Armed Forces had finished restocking with arms and ammunition depleted by the Falklands conflict.

The move came after the bill to privatise the Royal Ordnance Factories received the Royal Assent on Wednesday. Union leaders were sceptical of the assurances by Mr John Lee, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Defence Procurement, in the Commons last week, that the redundancies were not designed to make the future company Royal Ordnance plc more attractive to investors.

The unions were preparing, through MPs, to bring "massive pressure" on the Government to maintain the factories' historic role as preferred source of weapons and ammunition to the British forces.



The Archbishop of Canterbury (right) gives a £50,000 Christian Aid cheque to Cardinal Hume, who will deliver it to a relief group in Ethiopia (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Provisionals rethink poll plan

From Richard Ford, Dublin

Democratic and Labour Party divisions within the SDLP and force it to take a more hardline approach.

The legal provision barring anyone from standing for public office, if he has been in prison up to five years before an election has meant that many of Provisional Sinn Féin's prospective candidates, who as young men were politicized by the experience of imprisonment, will not be able to stand in the election.

Provisional Sinn Féin is also understood to be having difficulty in attracting the right calibre of candidates to stand for election, with many youngsters being unimpressed by the achievements of political activists.

The party suffered a setback by getting only 91,000 votes against 147,000 for the Social

Democratic and Labour Party in the European election in Northern Ireland.

Although there are tensions within the movement, there is no dispute about politics versus the bomb and bullet. It remains a dual strategy with the leadership of Provisional Sinn Féin accepting that only military force would finally force Britain to withdraw from Northern Ireland.

The reassessment of electoral strategy may mean that the party will not make a frontal assault against the SDLP in next year's local government elections, but instead mount a limited campaign aimed at winning seats in Provisional strongholds. That, it may hope, could allow the party to hold the balance of power on local

Journalists move to protect NUJ jobs

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

A clash between the National Union of Journalists and the National Graphical Association over a new technology deal at Portsmouth and Sunderland newspapers is set to enter a new and more serious phase.

Journalists' leaders are seeking a meeting with management to persuade them to drop a crucial part of the agreement which provides for three NGA members to take editorial jobs.

The NUJ chapel (office branch) at The News, Portsmouth, has accepted its national colleagues' proposal to the proposal and urged them to seek new meetings with the company. The chapel had previously signed an agreement which implicitly accepted the arrangement.

National leaders of the NGA saw management last week in an effort to ensure that its new foothold on the editorial floor

Dell ban on Chelsea supporters

Chelsea football supporters, accused of terrorizing children and old people when violence erupted after a 1-0 defeat at Southampton, were banned yesterday from future visits to Southampton's ground, The Dell.

The Southampton Football Club decided that only their own season-ticket holders, and those with special vouchers, would be admitted to future home games with Chelsea. The vouchers would be issued at a home match.

Mr Brian Tuscott, secretary of Southampton FC, said: "With Chelsea it is not a minority who cause trouble, it is a hell of a lot. We would rather have a lower gate and lose money than have this repeated."

Mr Ken Bates, Chelsea Football Club chairman, reacted angrily to news of the ban. "I think it's a bit of sensation seeking for domestic consumption."

Stricter adherence to the industry's disputes procedure and acceptance of the principle of non-automatic replacement of staff.

Policeman may have known killer

The detectives hunting the gunman who shot dead Police Sergeant John Speed on Wednesday believe the officer may have known his killer.

Det Chief Supt John Conboy believes the man who carried out the shooting may be a local man. "I cannot discount the possibility that he may even have been known to Sergeant Speed and that he shot him in a desperate attempt to prevent his arrest", he headed.

Sergeant Speed was shot dead as he went to the aid of a colleague, Police Constable John Thorpe, who had been shot while questioning two men seen tampering with a car parked opposite Leeds Parish Church, Pc Thorpe, aged 37, was still "very poorly" yesterday.

De Kooning sets £1.5m record for living artist

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Willem de Kooning topped all auction price records for the work of a living artist at Christie's in New York on Thursday when his small painting of "Two women" sold for \$1,980,000 (unpublished estimate \$750,000) or £1,596,774. It also beats all auction records for postwar art, overtaking the previous high of \$1.5m for a Rothko.

De Kooning was born in Rotterdam but settled in the United States in 1926 where his expressionist canvasses hovering on the line dividing realism and abstraction have become highly sought after. Another painting from his series devoted to "Two women" set the previous high for his work of \$1.27m.

The picture sold at Christie's on Thursday measures 22in by 28in and was painted in 1953. With rapid sweeping brush strokes and a fuzzi of colour he sketches in two naked figures.

The De Kooning was one among 10 auction record prices for individual artists established in Christie's sale of contemporary art which totalled £5.3m with 20 per cent unsold.

In London yesterday the National Portrait Gallery tracked down an important early-eighteenth century portrait for its records at Christie's. They spent £1,026 (estimate £600-£1,000) to secure a "Portrait of Mrs. Burnett" by Sir Godfrey Kneller. She was the third wife of Bishop Burnet whose *History of My Own Time* provides one of the most important records of the Restoration period.



Commander Huckleby: Appetite for hard work

Another new owner for Aston Martin

By Clifford Webb

Aston Martin Lagonda, the Newport Pagnell based car manufacturer, has been rescued again from the brink of bankruptcy. Ownership of the company has just changed hands for the eleventh time in its 60-year history.

The latest financial crisis was surprising, because the company's fortunes seemed to have become more secure.

From a peak of 170 cars in 1978 sales had fallen to 30 in 1982. This year the company had planned to make 90 cars with the US taking 70 of the cars that sell between £45,000 and £100,000.

Aston ran into cash-flow problems as it tried to meet that extra demand and was unable to pay some of its suppliers.

Two of the company's three Greek-American owners, the brothers Nick and John Papanicolaou, suffered financial setbacks in their shipping interests and were forced to sell their 66 per cent holding.

The third member of the triumvirate, Mr Peter Livanos, stepped in and increased his shareholding to 75 per cent. The remaining 25 per cent has been taken up by Mr Victor Gauntlett, a former shareholder and chief executive for the past four years.

Fifty-eight of the company's workers have since been made redundant and production has been cut from five to four cars a week.

Mr Gauntlett said yesterday: "The Livanos family are extremely wealthy and very happy about their increased involve-

Duke's mail code is cracked

By Bill Johnston

Private messages left in the Duke of Edinburgh's electronic mail box, some addressed to other members of the Royal Family have been read by computer enthusiasts who cracked his pass code.

The security breach happened on the Prestel information system operated by British Telecom.

The system offers information on many subjects as well as offering users the facility to send and receive electronic mail. The Duke is a regular user of the service.

Hundreds of codes have been changed by British Telecom to prevent a recurrence. The enthusiasts were able not only to work out the Duke's six-figure pass code but were also able to use a similar technique to change information on a *Financial Times* file containing business information. They changed the stated exchange rate of the pound to \$50.

The incident has embarrassed British Telecom. An official said: "We are treating it very seriously. We were aware of a lapse in Prestel security several days ago; as a result we have changed all the identity codes to information providers. We are also advising all customers to change their own identity codes."

There are about 160 information providers who write the information on the Prestel pages, assigned by 1,000 subcontractors. Any breach in the security codes would allow the computer pages to be altered illegally.

St George's head demoted

Just 16 months after being appointed headmaster of St George's, the boys' public school at Great Eborac, near Stowmarket, Suffolk, Mr Jeffrey Robinson, aged 49, has been demoted to joint headmaster.

In September 1982, St George's was the subject of a *Checkpoint* investigation on Radio 4, which alleged excessive corporal punishment. The subsequent report by Her Majesty's Inspectors cleared the name of the co-founder and headmaster Mr Derek Slade, in March 1983, but he resigned shortly afterwards.

No reason has been given for Mr Robinson's demotion. He is understood to have reduced the number of beatings and boosted academic results. Now Mr Barry Slade, younger brother of Mr Derek Slade has taken over responsibility for discipline.

The parents of many of the school's 343 boys aged between eight and 17 are posted abroad with the services.

Mr Barry Slade yesterday was requesting that all questions from the Press should be put in writing. Mr Robinson, who is said to be disappointed, was busy teaching. The school is looking for a new headmaster.

On target: Squadron Leader Pete Dunlop, aged 35 (left), and Flight Lieutenant Dick Middleton, aged 33, Tornado pilot and navigator who won the Curtiss Le May trophy for high and low-level bombing.

Tornado's striking success in contest

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Royal Air Force's new Tornado strike aircraft have had an outstanding success in competition in the United States against aircraft of the US and Australian air forces.

Taking part in the US Strategic Air Command bombing competition they came first and second in the competition for the Curtiss Le May trophy, for high and low-level bombing, won a second trophy, and were runners-up for a third trophy.

It was the first time that the RAF had competed since 1980, when they were represented by the Vulcan bomber which has now been phased out of service.

The Tornado was competing against American B-52 and F-111 bombers and also Australian F-111s. Although the Tornado had the advantage of being the most modern of the aircraft, it had the disadvantage of competing in roles, such as medium and high-level bombing, for which it was not designed, and was also the only aircraft involved which had to use air-to-air refuelling.

The Tornados, and their attendant Victor refuelling tankers, were drawn from squadrons stationed at RAF Marham in Norfolk, and had flown to the United States Air Force base at Ellsworth, South Dakota, for the competition.

The contest, spread over eight weeks, contained two phases, one involving dropping 3-kilogram bombs on invisible targets in the Nevada Desert, using blind bombing techniques while evading fighter and missile attack. The second phase involved sorties of about five hours, compared with the average Tornado sortie of 1½ hours, towards the Canadian border.

This success may well assist attempts to sell the Tornado abroad. The Ministry of Defence has for some time been in negotiation with Saudi Arabia about the possible sale of 40 Tornados of the type used in the competition, while British Aerospace is seeking to sell 16 of the air defence version of the Tornado to Oman.

Anti-terrorist chief's farewell

Commander William Huckleby gave his last order to the 140 detectives of Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist squad yesterday after two and three quarter years in charge.

A passion for sport and an appetite for hard work seem to have kept Mr Huckleby, aged 47, battling on with his men through a period during which the Provisional IRA has killed 20 people in mainland attacks and Middle-Eastern terrorists have fought out their battles on London streets. There have also been letter bombs and the occasional kidnapping.

On Monday, Mr Huckleby moves to the quieter pastures of the Fraud Squad, another large Yard CID department, having over-stayed the two years now set down for commanders of C13.

In his time he has become one of the best-known policemen in the service after countless television appearances

'Posh Bill' moves on to the quieter world of fraud

By Stewart Tisdler, Crime Reporter

and interviews. Some policemen dislike the press, but Mr Huckleby warmed to the task, dapper and eloquent before the cameras.

He is known as "PB", or "Posh Bill" to his staff because of his smart appearance and impeccable English.

He came to the squad's headquarters on the Yard's fifth floor no stranger to terrorism. After an initial career which took him into the Fraud Squad and the early days of the complaints investigation bureau he served with C13 1970s.

"When I was first up here," Mr Huckleby said this week as he began to prepare to move, "we would arrest people before they got back to Ireland, but the IRA have learnt new tactics and their planning is better. They are far more formidable as shown by the Grand Hotel attack."

These days the bombers are safe at home again when the bomb explodes.

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Sites named for more garden festivals

The Government announced yesterday the venues of more national garden festivals. They will be held at Glasgow and Gateshead in 1988 and 1990, respectively. After that, one will be in Swansea.

Liverpool was this year's venue and one will be staged in Stoke-on-Trent in 1986. Mr Allan Stewart, Under-Secretary of State, Scottish Office, said in Glasgow that work would start immediately developing 128 acres at the derelict Princes Dock overlooking the Clyde.

The festival will mean 1,000 jobs during the next five years and £75m investment in private housing as part of an associated development.

In Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, the site chosen is an old coke tip and derelict land on the banks of the Tyne.

Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Local Government, made the announcement while visiting the North-east. The venture, costing £15m, will occupy 180 acres.

The minister said the festival will "vastly improve the area and some of the site will be available for private development afterwards."

M & S may go out of town

Marks and Spencer is considering its first out of town store at The Metro Centre in the Gateshead Enterprise Zone, Tyne and Wear. The company is likely to extend its range at the store to computers and flat pack furniture to a 150,000 sq ft unit.

Carrefour, the French supermarket company, is taking 110,000 sq ft at the £50m retail and leisure centre.

Three jailed for blackmail

Three men who posed as Irish terrorists were jailed yesterday for conspiring to blackmail Anthony Seward, a disgraced Army officer, into giving them military information.

Thomas Anderson, aged 43, of no fixed address, was sentenced to five years. Patrick Carroll, aged 40, also of no fixed address, was jailed for three years and George O'Hara, aged 41, of Stanhope Street, Camden, London, was sent to prison for three and a half years. All denied the charge. William O'Hara, aged 30, of Casibridge Road, Watford, was found guilty on Tuesday.

Prison for hare coursing attack

Paul Willingdale, aged 38, a hare coursing enthusiast who attacked Mr Edward Coulston, aged 34, an anti-blood sports campaigner, with a shooting stick and fractured his skull, was jailed for six months at Preston Crown Court yesterday.

Willingdale, an unemployed fitter, of Liston Garden, Liston, Sudbury, Suffolk, was found guilty of causing grievous bodily harm at an event at Altcar, Lancashire, in February.

Skin graft for Tebbit's hip

A skin-grafting operation is to be carried out on the left hip of Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, after his injuries in the hotel bombing in Brighton.

The Stoke Mandeville Hospital in Buckinghamshire said he had an operation this week to clean up a hip wound. When that healed it would need a skin graft.

Father freed

A father, who was jailed for life for arson on the evidence of his sons, was cleared by the Court of Appeal in London yesterday. Kirpal Singh's conviction was quashed because "there was such animosity in this family that the children might have rigged this incident". Mr Singh was convicted last October for starting a fire at his family's house in Redfont Feltham, West London.

Liberal waits

Mr Justice Lloyd yesterday reserved judgment in the High Court in the action brought by Mr David Gempert, a Liberal councillor, who asked the judge to overturn decisions by Hackney Borough Council in east London barring him from a subcommittee's meetings.

Papers found

Papers relating to a man's criminal record have been found in a Bedford Street, a few days before he was due to appear at court.

The Times history atlas

A new edition of *The Times Atlas of World History* has just been published by Times Books. Thousands of revisions have been made, including many new maps. The atlas is available from bookshops at £25.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$22, Bahamas \$18, Canada \$22, Hong Kong \$22, India \$22, Japan \$22, New Zealand \$22, Singapore \$22, South Africa \$22, Sweden \$22, Switzerland \$22, Taiwan \$22, Thailand \$22, USA \$22, West Germany \$22, Yugoslavia \$22.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$22, Bahamas \$18, Canada \$22, Hong Kong \$22, India \$22, Japan \$22, New Zealand \$22, Singapore \$22, South Africa \$22, Sweden \$22, Switzerland \$22, Taiwan \$22, Thailand \$22, USA \$22, West Germany \$22, Yugoslavia \$22.

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Incompetent doctors more likely to be found guilty of misconduct

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Incompetent and inconsiderate doctors are in future more likely to be found guilty of serious professional misconduct. In addition, the General Medical Council (GMC) is more likely to consider imposing conditions on a doctor's continued right to practise in such cases.

The council decided yesterday to broaden its disciplinary proceedings to include a wider range of cases where it is alleged that doctors have failed to provide a proper standard of medical care.

Its decision comes after increasing criticism that the council failed to act effectively where doctors have treated patients incompetently and rudely, even when a patient has later died.

The move is an attempt to head off a private member's Bill drawn up by Mr Nigel Spearing, Labour MP for Newham South. His Bill would in effect allow the council to impose conditional registration on doctors found guilty of "unacceptable" conduct in such cases.

He drew up the Bill in the

light of a case in which a doctor failed adequately to examine, treat or admit to hospital a delirious boy aged eight who died of meningitis four days later. He kicked under the table a bowl of vomit the boy had produced.

When the child did not respond to a request to open his mouth the doctor said: "If he cannot be bothered to open his bloody mouth I shall not bloody well look in".

The council found the facts proved, and expressed concern at the doctor's conduct, but it found him not guilty of serious professional misconduct and admonished him.

He has since been found guilty of the charge in another case in which he told a woman who had a miscarriage to wrap the foetus in newspaper, flush it down the lavatory, and come and see him three days later. He agrees not to practise for the time being and was referred to the council's health committee.

The council is opposed to Mr Spearing's Bill, believing that to create a lesser offence of unacceptable conduct would

create confusion and injustice. But in an attempt to answer the criticisms, it has expanded its definition of serious professional misconduct.

The guidelines will state that doctors should assess a patient's conditions conscientiously, give a sufficiently thorough examination, and "competent and professional management".

Sir John Walton, council president, said yesterday that the council accepted that the public expected it to take note of a wider range of cases.

"These could include incompetence and lack of consideration."

Mr Spearing, however, reacted with caution. "Whatever the widening of the definition of serious professional misconduct", he said, "it appears that conduct which is not regarded as serious, but which is misconduct, is not to be covered by any statutory sanction."

He would consider the changes before deciding whether to press ahead with his Bill.



Model home: The Batty Doll's House which was stored under Brighton railway station during the First World War is to be sold at Phillips in London on December 5.

The doll's house, photographed above with Jo Skipsey a receptionist at the auctioneers, was built by Thomas Batty between 1908 and 1910 in Drighlington, west Yorkshire.

He took two years to weave the four carpets in the house. The dining room is oak-panelled, and the drawing room has Louis XIV style furniture covered with 22 carat gold leaf.

It has an estimate of £5,000 and the proceeds are to go to the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Expert on dolphins broke law

A leading conservationist admitted breaking wildlife laws when he imported three bottlenose dolphins. Huynon Magistrates Court, Merseyside, was told yesterday.

Mr Reginald Bloom, of Mill Farm, Brighilline, Essex, pleaded guilty to four breaches of the Endangered Species Act 1976 concerning the keeping and movement of dolphins.

The case was brought by Greenpeace, after the Government refused to prosecute. The prosecution was the first under section six of the Act.

Mr Bloom, aged 62, was given an absolute discharge and the magistrates made no award

for costs. Greenpeace had asked for £1,343.

Mr Bloom, applied to the Secretary of State for the Environment for a licence to import and keep the dolphins at Flamingoland Kirby Misperton, North Yorkshire. Instead when they arrived at Heathrow from America on December 21, 1983, the dolphins were taken straight to Knowsley Safari Park, near Prescot, Merseyside.

The move was discovered only when Mr John Eley, the department of the Environment's chief wildlife inspector, visited Knowsley on January 31 this year.

Mr Jonathan Caplan for Greenpeace, said the movement

took up the case because it was concerned by the high death rate among dolphins in captivity, and that they should be kept in the proper surroundings.

Mr Kevin Fletcher, for Mr Bloom, said that his client had and unimpeachable record generally, and particularly, regarding the keeping of dolphins. This man has been actively engaged in promoting conservation in this country, and throughout the world, for 20 years.

The breaches were a "technicality". The licence at Flamingoland Dolphinarium was due to lapse, and Mr Bloom had sent the dolphins to Knowsley until it was renewed.

'Toe case' torturers get 46 years' jail

Three men who brutally tortured Mr Harry Tipple, a newspaperman, and his wife Cicely, were jailed for a total of 46 years in the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Terence Bradford, aged 24, was sentenced to 18 years imprisonment. He was dragged to the cells after a fight with prison officers shouting that he was innocent. Eight officers struggled to overpower him. Edward Mitchell, aged 29, was sentenced to 15 years and Bradford's brother Charles, aged 25, to 13 years.

Mr Tipple, aged 59, who had a toe cut off and stuffed into his mouth during the two-hour ordeal and his wife, Cicely, aged 56, were subjected to "unending violence and humiliation" by their attackers who mistakenly believed £50,000 was hidden in their home in Peckham, south-east London.

The jury convicted Mitchell, of Primrose House, Peckham Hill Street, Peckham, Terence Bradford, of Carrisdale House,

St Leonard's Road, Poplar, east London, and his brother, Charles, of Gilling Road, Peckham, of causing grievous bodily harm with intent to Mr Tipple and to his wife in February.

Mitchell was found guilty of indecently assaulting Mrs Tipple. Charles Bradford was acquitted on a similar charge. The three were also found guilty of wounding Mrs Tipple and both Bradford brothers of robbing Mr Tipple of about £700, a charge to which Mitchell pleaded guilty.

Mr Justice Russell told the three men: "Originally your motives may have been robbery, they may have been to beat up Mr Tipple. But once inside the Tipples' flat the three of you tortured the poor couple for your perverted, sadistic instincts. The mental scars will remain with them for the rest of their lives and certainly they thought that their last moments had come."

Mr Tipple said he had no intention of giving up the shop in Peckham Park Road, where he had worked for 30 years. "I am a little too stubborn to give up as a result of this incident."

While in hospital, the couple received more than 600 letters of sympathy and were "absolutely swamped" with flowers. Mrs Tipple, a school secretary, said she felt "degraded and soiled" after the attack.

The jury was not told that the Tipples' shop was burgled while they were in hospital. A man has been dealt with for the offence.

Nor were they told, until they had returned their verdicts, that Charles Bradford had been convicted on a previous occasion for a break-in at the shop. In May last year he was given 200 hours community service for the offence.

Lost son's £850,000 for charity

The £850,000 left by a mother to her missing air gunner son in the belief that he was still alive is to go to animal charity, a High Court judge decided yesterday. Mrs Evelyn May Green, who lived at Boroughbridge, North Yorkshire, died, aged 90, on February 1, 1976.

She believed that her son, Peter, whose Halifax bomber failed to return from a raid on Berlin in 1943, would come back one day. In her will, she requested that, if he had not returned by the year 2020, the money should be used to fight animal cruelty.

Mr Justice Nourse granted her trustees permission to give the money to animal charities immediately. Seven relatives who had challenged the bequest will get nothing.

But the order preserves the right of the son, if he is still alive, to come forward and claim the money.

Jail term cut

Mr Justice Gibbons, QC, at the Central Criminal Court yesterday, reduced from 30 months to eight months a jail sentence he had imposed on Wednesday on Rashnikant Patel, aged 42, of Vivian Avenue, Wembley. Patel admitted charges of deception and false accounting at the Citibank, Strand, where he worked.

Chemical alert

Ten people, including two firemen and a policeman, were taken to Derbyshire Royal Infirmary early yesterday after a chemical leak at the East Midlands airport near Derby. Four were released after treatment but the other six were transferred to Derby City Hospital where they were said to be satisfactory.

Family affair

Julia McArdle, aged 19, of Preston Park, North Shields, Tyne and Wear, was fined £100 with £12 costs by the town's magistrates on Tuesday after failing the Carnic electronic breath test machine invented by her father, Mr Geoffrey McArdle.

Couple will still run newsagents

Harry Tipple and his wife, Cicely, thought of giving up the newsagent's shop where they suffered horrifying torture. "But if we did, the robbers would have won", Mr Tipple said yesterday.

Now they are trying to recover from the physical and mental damage caused by what Mr Roy Amiot, for the prosecution, described as an "awesome crime, unparalleled in recent times".

Mr Tipple, who now walks with a limp, said: "As far as I am concerned, the sentences fitted the crime. You can see from the trouble caused in the dock, and he was stone cold sober then, what it was like for two hours. I was lucky to be carried out alive."

Mr Tipple said: "I really thought at one stage we were going to be killed. But I wasn't going to give them the satisfaction of telling them where the day's takings were."

Mr Tipple, an official of the Retail Confectioners and Tobacconists Association, said

Mrs Tipple and her husband: Thought they would die.

he had no intention of giving up the shop in Peckham Park Road, where he had worked for 30 years. "I am a little too stubborn to give up as a result of this incident."

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Cheaper shopping

Day trippers boost for Belfast

By Richard Ford

The number of bargain hunters crossing the border into Northern Ireland is turning into a stampede as cars and coachloads of people arrive at the start of what looks like a huge pre-Christmas spending spree.

Border towns in the province are booming with a steady influx of shoppers taking advantage of lower prices while across the border in the republic businesses are threatened with ruin.

Last year day trippers, most of them from the republic, spent £120m in the province, an increase of 500 per cent. Whatever the political differences between the two parts of Ireland, they do not matter where business is concerned.

£330m duty-free sales

Air and sea travellers spend more on duty-free goods in Britain than anywhere else in the world, and Heathrow airport is the biggest single duty-free outlet, according to a survey by the magazine, *Business Traveller*.

Sales of duty-free goods in Britain top £330m a year compared with £200m in the US, £120m in West Germany and £110m in France. One franchise-holder, Alder International, sold £100m of goods at Heathrow and Gatwick last year, 25 per cent up on 1982.

North South

Bottle of Gordon's Gin	£7.39	£8.36
Six-pack Harp Lager	£1.59	£2.67
Ariel Automatic washing powder E-10 size	£2.69	£3.27
1lb Black Magic chocolate	£2.59	£3.60
Mitsubishi 23in colour TV	£389.35	£553.28

Although some Protestants will not spend money in the republic, no such inhibitions affect the people who pour north across the border at weekends.

Belfast is being regenerated by huge redevelopment in

commercial and residential property, bringing a growing confidence in its future and proving to be one of the significant success stories of the past two years.

Late-night shopping has boosted stores' takings, encouraging people to return to the city centre at night where they can use a growing number of restaurants, catering for a much brighter life than was ever imagined in the dark days of the early 1970s.

One official said: "The city centre is probably the only place where it does not matter what religion you are or where you live. People are out enjoying themselves."

The council has run campaigns to encourage people to shop in Belfast. Shortly it is to launch a campaign under the name "I love Belfast". During the next five years between £70m and £80m is to be invested in commercial property development.

A big investment drive by shops has begun, including an £18m extension which has doubled the size of Marks and Spencer, a £7.5m extension by British Home Stores and refurbishment by Littlewoods and C & A.

Mr Eddie Simpson, development officer for the city, said: "There is increasing confidence in Belfast. It shows in more crowds and a generally more relaxed lifestyle."

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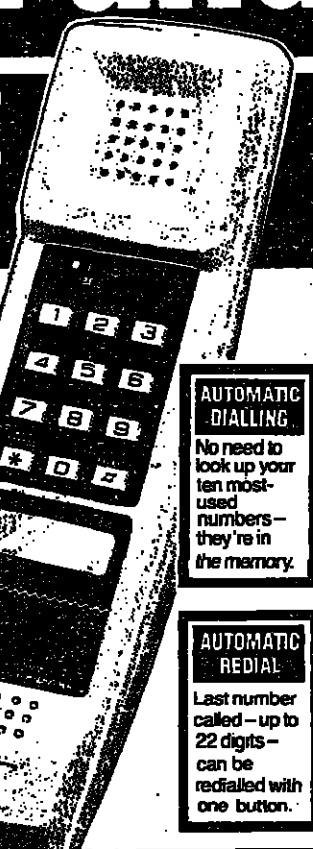
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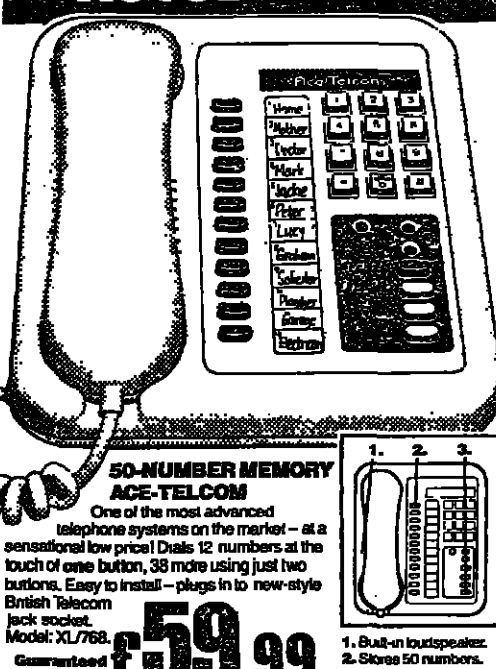
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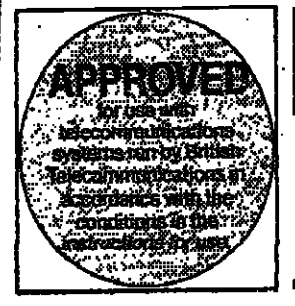
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Home sale deals 'must have safeguards'

By Christopher Warman Property Correspondent

Many housebuyers would like to be able to use a complete housing package, provided by a building society, but such a system must have safeguards, Mr Jeremy Mitchell, director of the National Consumer Council, said yesterday.

He welcomed the "convenience and increased competition" that building societies could offer with such packages, but said that consumers must be protected from any conflict of interest.

Mr Mitchell, addressing the South and East Association of Building Societies at Eastbourne, doubted whether building societies should be allowed to provide estate agency services.

As agent for the seller, a building society would have a financial interest and a duty to get the highest possible price.

By contrast, the society's duty to the buyer and borrower and its interest in having an accurate valuation of the house as security for the mortgage, would point in the opposite direction.

The suggestion that to overcome that problem building societies should set up their estate agencies as subsidiaries needed careful examination.

The prospect of building societies providing cheque books and personal loans was outlined yesterday by Mr Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, when he spoke at the international forum of the Scottish Council for Development and Industry at Aviemore (Ronald Faux writes).

He said that, without turning the societies into a source of funds for commerce or industry, or a general consumer credit agency, the Government believed that they should be allowed to offer financial services so far denied to them. A White Paper would be issued soon.

Two more men cleared in Dr Clift case appeals

Two men convicted of a street attack 13 years ago on the evidence of the discredited forensic scientist Dr Alan Clift, were cleared by the Court of Appeal in London yesterday.

The appeal judges, headed by the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane, acted after the Crown counsel, Mr Desmond Fennell, QC, said he would not oppose the appeals of the two which had been to the court by the Home Secretary.

But the judges rejected another appeal referred to the court after the discrediting of Dr Clift's evidence in a murder case, in spite of Mr Fennell's announcement that the Crown would not oppose that appeal either.

In the first case, Michael Szpytma, aged 30, of Bethels Road, Oulton Broad, Suffolk, and Alan Sample, aged 29, of Fieldway Court, Birkenhead, Merseyside, had assault convictions quashed and their sentences set aside.

Mr Szpytma had been sentenced to three months' detention by Liverpool Crown Court in November, 1971, and Mr Sample had been sent to borstal.

Each conceded having been near the scene of the attack in Birkenhead in August, 1971 on a Mr John Sweeney, but they denied any involvement in it.

Mr Fennell told Lord Lane, Mr Justice Stocker, and Mr Justice Fargher, that the scientific evidence of fibres given by Dr Clift in that case could not now be verified independently.

When the next case to be reviewed was called, counsel told the judges that he was not seeking to oppose that appeal either.

Lord Lane, however, said the court had no "reasonable unease" about the safety of sex offence convictions recorded against Keith Gordon, aged 54, at Sheffield Crown Court in July 1975, and dismissed his appeal.

Lord Lane said the court was prepared to consider the matter on the basis that Dr Clift's scientific evidence in the case had been "pitched too high", but the other evidence supporting the girl's version of what happened was overwhelming.

The Court of Appeal has now heard seven of the eleven cases referred to it by the Home Secretary, allowing four of the appeals. Three more will be heard on Wednesday, including the case of a German citizen given a life sentence in 1970 at Manchester for murdering his daughter.

Blueprint to save dock buildings

By Christopher Warman Property Correspondent

A new plan for the Chatham Dockyard, which was closed earlier this year, has been drawn up by Save Britain's Heritage. It believes that more than £2m can be generated from the sale of flats and houses after conversions to the dockyard's historic buildings. Its proposals include the adaptation for commercial or industrial use of other historic buildings providing a further £340,000.

Earlier reports had concluded that there was no commercially viable use for historic buildings such as the Anchor Wharf. The plans for the future of the dockyard are the work of Mr Marcus Binney, president of Save Britain's Heritage, and Mr Martin, who specialises in restoring redundant historic buildings.

The Royal Navy Dockyard at Chatham, established on the Medway in the sixteenth century, was closed on April 1. Since then it has been held by a trust under the chairmanship of Lieutenant General Sir Stuart Pringle which has received an £11m endowment to help breathe new life into the area.

Chatham Historic Dockyard - Alive or Moribund? (Save, 68, Battersea High St, London SW11 3HX, £4).

South-east has heart surgery lead

By Nicholas Timmins Social Services Correspondent

A study by The British Medical Journal finds wide variations between National Health Service regions in the number of heart operations carried out, with the health service still providing far fewer coronary by-pass operations than other countries.

The study, by a team of doctors and surgeons led by Mr Terence English, a heart transplant specialist, shows that in the South-west, Oxford and Wales, less than a third as many cardiac operations are carried out per head of population than in three of the four Thames regions.

For coronary by-pass surgery, which studies suggest may not prolong life but which does relieve angina, the gap is even greater - nearer tenfold.

In the five years to 1982, the South-west and Oxford regions respectively carried out 14 and 22 such operations for every one million, against 212 in South-east Thames.

The study says the reason for the big differences is partly historical. When open heart surgery was developed in the 1960s, most teaching hospitals, "often for reasons of prestige", sought to set up cardiac surgery units. As a result 16 of the 42 units are in or around London.

Havers sues RSPCA for 'punishing' inspector

The RSPCA is being sued by the Attorney General, Sir Michael Havers, QC, for allegedly "punishing" one of its inspectors who gave mitigating evidence in a prosecution brought by the society.

The Attorney General was yesterday given leave by Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Nolan in the High Court in London to bring an action for contempt of court against the RSPCA.

Lord Justice Watkins, granting leave, described the case as "a very unusual business". According to court documents it arose out of a prosecution brought by the RSPCA against a couple who pleaded guilty at North Walsham Magistrates' Court, Norfolk, in October last year of offences contrary to the 1911 Protection of Animals Act.

At the magistrates' court, and in a subsequent appeal against sentence at Norwich Crown Court, Mr Barrymore Roland Hill, the RSPCA inspector, gave evidence in mitigation. He was called under a witness summons.

He was accused at a later RSPCA disciplinary hearing of "acting in a manner reasonably likely to bring discredit on the inspectorate of the RSPCA by giving supportive evidence for the defendants in the prosecution brought against them".

The Attorney General alleges that the society acted in contempt by punishing Mr Hill for providing information which he was required to give by law.

At yesterday's court hearing, Mr Andrew Collins, counsel for the Attorney General, said: "What has happened here, on the face of the transcript of the disciplinary hearing, is that the offences which were alleged, has been the punishment of the inspector for having given evidence at the magistrates and crown courts."

The RSPCA were not represented at yesterday's hearing. The full hearing is expected to take place soon.

Rampton nurses lose appeal

Five Rampton Hospital nurses, given suspended jail terms in two separate trials at Nottingham for ill-treating patients, lost appeals against their convictions in the Court of Appeal.

The Court of Appeal judges held that the conduct of the trials, by Judge Hopkin, could not be criticized. But yesterday's decision goes against a Court of Appeal ruling earlier this year in a separate ill-treatment case that, because the allegations had been made by patients and former patients at a high-security hospital, special and strong warnings had to be given to juries hearing them.

Lord Justice May, sitting yesterday with Mr Justice Lincoln, said evidence from mental patients was "plainly suspect".

Lawyers for the five nurses said they would seek leave to appeal from the House of Lords Appeals Committee.

Police on alert in Warsaw Tension spreads through Poland as 10,000 wait for priest's body to arrive

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

On the eve of the funeral of the murdered Solidarity priest, Father Jerzy Popieluszko, the mood here crackled and sparked like a faulty wire. Outside the priest's church, the twin-towered St Stanislaw Kosciuszko, about 10,000 people gathered in the bitter cold to await the return of his body.

The coffin will lie in state throughout the night and the crowd will form the nucleus of today's funeral gathering, expected to be one of the largest displays of support for the banned union since the martial-law crackdown three years ago.

The tension has spread to the port of Gdansk, where Solidarity was born. The local union leader, Mr Andrzej Gwiazda, plunging into a dispute with the more moderate Mr Lech Walesa, has appealed for a one-hour strike from noon in the shipyards. Warsaw factories will observe a three-minute silence for the priest, who is to be buried in the grounds of his church.

Police are on alert in the capital and reins are being pulled tight on potential demonstrators of the funeral Mass, which will be celebrated by the Primate, Cardinal Jozef Glemp. Headmasters have warned pupils that today is a working day. Workers at the Warsaw steel plant - which regarded Father Popieluszko as their priest - asked to fly their flags at half-mast, but were told this was only possible with the permission of the Interior Ministry.

The burial in St Stanislaw Kosciuszko represents a "short-term victory for the authorities because they will avoid major processions through the streets, but in the long term it will cause them trouble", the Solidarity spokesman, Janusz Onysiewicz, said.

The church has already become a shrine, not only for the priest, but for the union which he championed. Banners written in Solidarity script garland the fence. One says: "Good will triumph over evil" - the first part of the slogan being written in characteristic Solidarity letters, "wy" being printed as if in a Communist Party newspaper.

Rumours are rife here that heads have already started to roll. Sources say that the chief prosecutor through Minister, but in the long term it will cause them trouble", the Solidarity spokesman, Janusz Onysiewicz, said.

The body of the priest was taken by van from Bialystok where, monitored by a lawyer nominated by the Church, Mr Jan Olszewski, it has undergone an autopsy. The Government had at first wanted to bury the priest in his home town of Bialystok, which is far from the capital near the Soviet border. After church pressure, the authorities agreed to the present arrangements.



Time for mourning: A young woman grieves during a Mass for the murdered priest.

Behind the campaign euphoria Sorrow of Reagan's last battle

From Christopher Thomas, Detroit

President Reagan is on his twilight campaign. After nearly 20 years it is the final quest for power, the last personal bid for election. To his campaign staff it feels almost like an early goodbye.

Mr Reagan's current 10-state, 10,000 mile swing is not so much a bid for victory as for a landslide. But it is a bitter-sweet time for his long-time, loyal campaign workers. The last electoral battle is almost done.

The final nationwide tour is a no-risks affair, every stop orchestrated down to the last quip, the last dry dig at his lacklustre opponent. The President says of Mr Walter Mondale: "If his administration were a novel, you'd have to read it from back to front to find a happy ending."

He talks a lot about youth, the very people who vilified him when he was Governor of California. Mr Reagan recalled the other day that there was a time when he could not speak on a campus because it would cause a riot.

The current generation of youth protests hardly at all. The oldest President of the United States packs them in.

People say Mr Reagan represents the post-Vietnam, post-Watergate generations. He is the first positive President they have experienced.

The campaign oratory is simple, emotional, corny, and effective.

To young people he says: "Your generation really sparkles. Your idealism and your love of country are unsurpassed. When the time comes to turn over the reins to you young people out there, we're going to turn over to you an America every bit as full of opportunity, hope, confidence, and dreams as we had when we were your age."

Similarly, Vice-President George Bush is being kept out of harm's way. It is a campaign with all the feel of a winning team stalling for time, for fear of scoring a fateful last-minute own goal.

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The mob gloats as a murdering grandmother dies

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

Over the past few weeks, Americans watched grandmother Margie Velma Barfield getting ready for her execution. They saw her on television, talking, knitting, giving interviews, walking in the jail corridors, exercising outside, clutching a mascot.

Everyone came to know her dumpy figure, bespectacled face and expression of resignation, a part of breakfast and dinner time viewing. Everyone became familiar, too, with the execution chamber and its equipment, the hospital trolley, the straps, the seats for the witnesses, the glass screen they would peer through to watch her dying.

They followed the debate on whether the drug which would be used to kill Mrs Barfield could cause pain.

As far as was possible, television made the preparations for her execution and the event itself a public spectacle. Within minutes of her death yesterday, reporters among the 16 witnesses emerged trembling and sweating to face a barrage of microphones and describe in minute detail how Mrs Barfield was put to death.

"You could see the tension in her neck muscles," a young woman journalist said, gulping. "She was breathing fairly rapidly when she was wheeled into the room, but she seemed to gain control of that and relaxed about five minutes in. You could see the chest moving up and down, there was no jerking. You could see the colour draining from her face, from her ears, as she became ashy grey."

A man said: "Her mouth moved very quickly, she seemed to be saying something, she wet her lips and then became very still. She had her head turned, so we could not clearly see her face." One of the reasons Mrs Barfield chose lethal injection in preference to gas was that she did not want to sit in a chair and face a crowd of people as she died.

A prison official announced that the execution was smooth and painless. A doctor had pronounced Mrs Barfield dead 15 minutes after the drugs were administered. Her son came to the microphones to say his mother had wanted to live.

At 2am, as the executioner poured the poisons into the tube in her arm, there was a burst of cheering from a small crowd of young men and women outside the prison in Raleigh, North Carolina. They gleefully waved placards. Such celebrating mobs are becoming a feature of executions in America. They openly enjoy the entertainment. Another crowd, protesting against the death penalty, stood silently and snuffed out candles they were holding.

Mrs Barfield, aged 52, had been on Death Row for six years, convicted of poisoning her fiancé, and having confessed to killing three other people. She was the first woman executed in the United States for 22 years.

In the days leading to the execution, as television enabled people to get to know her, the preparations were carefully choreographed. She chose her coffin and funeral clothes and agreed to donate her organs for transplant.

The ritual of reporting executions always includes details of the last meal. One man recently chose oysters, as he had never had them before. Mrs Barfield chose Coca-Cola and a snack called Cheez Doodles. She dressed in pink pyjamas and slippers for her execution, said she was sorry for the hurt she had caused.

Sometimes one of the television channels shows a colour chalk drawing of an execution. But, for some reason, that final little touch was missing from the otherwise full coverage of this one.

Mrs Barfield: Saw it as a gateway to Heaven.

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China calls halt to 35 years of class war

Peking (Reuters) - China yesterday formally ended 35 years of persecution of people branded as "landlords, rich peasants, counter-revolutionaries and bad elements".

The Public Security Ministry announced that it had "remoulded" 20 million people since the communist victory in 1949 and had removed the damning label from the last 79,504 people convicted of belonging to the four categories of "class enemies".

It said 982 of those in the last group had been wrongly accused, and that the "class enemy" designations of people who had died or were now living abroad had been removed.

Namibia talks shift to Europe

Johannesburg - This week's talks on the Cape Verde Islands between South Africa and the United States, which have raised hopes of a settlement of the Namibia dispute, are to continue in Europe next week, according to informed sources (Michael Hornsby writes).

Mr R. F. "Pik" Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, has engagements in Italy, West Germany and Israel during the coming week and is considered likely to meet Dr Chester Crocker, the United States Assistant Secretary of State for African affairs, in Munich on Tuesday.

Tehran renews threat to US

Tehran (Reuters) - President Ali Khamenei marked the fifth anniversary of the student seizure of the US Embassy two days early by saying Iran would not hesitate to strike against American interests anywhere.

The United States must stop conspiring against Iran before relations could be restored, he told a mass prayer rally.

Trawler seized

La Rochelle (AFP) - The British registered trawler Alakiranda operating in a Spanish fishing fleet was boarded off the French Atlantic coast and brought into La Pallice in south-western France, where its catch was seized, maritime sources said. The skipper will be charged with using a net of undersized mesh.

Island crisis

Carcas (Reuters) - The Dutch island of Aruba faces economic collapse if Exxon closes its Lago oil refinery there, said Mr Betico Croes, leader of the majority party.

Greeks shiver

Athens (AP) - Two people died in a sudden cold snap as temperatures plunged to freezing point after a month of unusually hot weather. Weekend snow was forecast for Northern Greece.

Station siege

Colombo (Reuters) - Five civilians were wounded when Tamil separatist guerrillas surrounded and attacked Jaffna railway station in northern Sri Lanka with bullets and bombs, before police repulsed them.

Alpine squeeze

Baden, Switzerland (Reuters) - Switzerland is growing smaller by 3mm a year and the Alps are rising because the country is being squeezed between the land masses of West Germany and Italy, a geological study shows.

Police killers

Kampala (AFP) - Three Ugandan police constables have been sentenced to death by a High Court judge for murdering a man who died in police custody in Sese Islands, Lake Victoria.

Man bites dog

Durban (Reuters) - A Durban estate agent, being savaged by a bull terrier, bit one of the dog's ears, forcing it to release its grip, a court heard. He was awarded 1,000 rand (£410) damages.

Israelis bow to three-month freeze

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

In an attempt to rescue Israel from crippling hyper-inflation of nearly 1,000 per cent, the Government of national unity yesterday finally secured the agreement of unions and employers to a three-month freeze on wages, prices, taxes and profits.

An emergency session of the Histadrut, the National Labour Federation, will be convened tonight in Tel Aviv to vote on the package, sources said.

The details were agreed yesterday in tripartite talks at the offices of Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister. The wages and prices freeze agreement came after publication of grim new figures from the Bank of Israel, showing that the country's much-depleted foreign currency reserves dropped a further \$94m (£76.5m) last month to a total of \$1,994m, compared with about \$3,000m.

The deal came after days of tough behind-the-scenes bargaining and increasingly desperate warnings from ministers about the dire state of the economy.

It is an important step forward for the national unity coalition which took office primarily to try to save Israel from the worst economic crisis in its 36-year history.

Mubarak visit's open questions

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt ended his four-day visit to West Germany yesterday with a meeting with the Defence Minister, Manfred Wörner, at which they discussed military cooperation but without concluding any agreement on German arms deliveries.

The question of government guarantees to a German firm competing to build Egypt's first nuclear power plant also remained open, President Mubarak discussed this during his visit with the economic and finance ministers here.

The plan is seen as a high financial risk, and Bonn is hesitant to commit itself to anything that could be interpreted as increasing the military strength of Middle East states.

On Thursday the Egyptian leader called on the Palestine Liberation Organization to put forward its own peace proposals. At a state dinner the previous evening he criticized "fanatical circles" in the PLO which opposed peaceful coexistence between Arabs and Israelis.

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Unions seek VDU limits

Geneva (Reuters) - An international trade union conference has recommended that union negotiators seek agreements with managements limiting intensive use of visual display units (VDUs) to no more than half an employee's total working day.

Many physical and psychological problems could be alleviated by reducing the time workers spent operating VDUs and the workload and work space at screens.

In jobs where it is not possible to sustain the half-day routine on VDUs, because of lack of suitable non-VDU work, there should be regular rest breaks of at least 15 minutes every hour for intensive use of screens, and 15 minutes every two hours for intermittent use.

New towns, Peking style

Peking - Municipal authorities yesterday revealed ambitious plans to build three satellite towns on the outskirts of the capital with a monorail link, to relieve some of the population and traffic congestion in the city (Mary Lee writes).

The deputy director of the municipality's Foreign Economic and Trade Commission said that the plans include building more hotels, some of which will be partly office buildings, to accommodate some 500 foreign firms waiting to be established here.

Kasparov looks relaxed as 21st game begins

Moscow (Reuters) - Gary Kasparov, the challenger, appeared relaxed in the opening moves of his twenty-first game for the world chess title against Anatoly Karpov the champion, and was pulling ahead on the clock.

Karpov, needing two more victories to retain his title, had white and began the game with Queen's Gambit Declined.

White Karpov, Black Kasparov

1	R-N3	P-N3	2	P-Q4	P-N3
2	P-Q4	P-N3	3	P-N3	P-N3
3	P-N3	P-N3	4	P-N3	P-N3
4	P-N3	P-N3	5	P-N3	P-N3
5	P-N3	P-N3	6	P-N3	P-N3
6	P-N3	P-N3	7	P-N3	P-N3
7	P-N3	P-N3	8	P-N3	P-N3
8	P-N3	P-N3	9	P-N3	P-N3
9	P-N3	P-N3	10	P-N3	P-N3
10	P-N3	P-N3	11	P-N3	P-N3
11	P-N3	P-N3	12	P-N3	P-N3
12	P-N3	P-N3	13	P-N3	P-N3
13	P-N3	P-N3	14	P-N3	P-N3
14	P-N3	P-N3	15	P-N3	P-N3
15	P-N3	P-N3	16	P-N3	P-N3
16	P-N3	P-N3	17	P-N3	P-N3

Harry Golombek page 16

سكنا من الاصل

Rajiv Gandhi's dilemma

'Mr Clean' tries to keep his image intact over choice of election date

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

As Mr Rajiv Gandhi, at 40 the youngest Prime Minister India has seen, lies down each evening in the comfortable surroundings of his late mother's home, one question is no doubt causing him newly crowned head to lie uneasily. When should he hold the election?

There is only one answer with full constitutional propriety, though there are many other possibilities to be considered. The more he looks at the problem, the more the constitutionally correct solution should be the one that suits his party best - and suits India best.

The five years of the present parliament's life end on January 30. Since it takes about three weeks to count the votes, the most appropriate time to go to the polls would be at the turn of the year.

Mr Gandhi could possibly put off polling until nearer the necessary date, dissolve Parliament and wait until the votes are in before assembling the new one, say on February 10.

This would be in keeping with Article 85 of the Constitution, which says that not more than six months should elapse between two sessions of Parliament. But some constitutional lawyers go even further.

The Law Ministry advised Mrs Gandhi a few weeks ago that she could, without breaching the Constitution, put off elections until May or June.

If Mr Gandhi were to summon Parliament for a short session later this month or in December, the Law Ministry opinion would mean that he need not hold the elections for six months from that date.

This would give him time to breathe, if that is what he felt he

wanted at present. But it would leave a particularly bad taste in the voters' mouths, and give the impression that the new "Mr Clean" was up to the same old chicanery as previous politicians.

For the same reason, a constitutional amendment to extend the life of the present parliament by one or two years would probably be ruled out. It would be reasonably easy to accomplish, since the Congress party has a two-thirds majority in the Lok Sabha (lower house), but could well be counter-productive.

The likelihood is that Mr Gandhi stands more chance of being returned to power by an emotion-charged electorate if he went to the polls now, or as soon as is reasonably possible after the 12-day mourning period ends. Time will not have diminished the nation's sense of his mother's martyrdom.

It is also in the party's interest that it should go to the polls with a Nehru at its head. Name recognition - that instant knowledge of what a person's policies and attitudes are, simply by knowing his name - is extraordinarily difficult to build in this country.

In India it would be impossible for a Gary Hart or a Jimmy Carter to emerge and be recognized overnight. Television sets are few and far between. Newspapers are read by a tiny proportion of the electorate. The only way to build name recognition is by going out and meeting the public. With 700 million people to meet, this can be a time-consuming and expensive task.

Widows, sons and daughters become leaders of parties and often enough prime ministers in

this sub-continent, not because people love the dynasty, but because they know and recognize the name.

This, no doubt, is why the Congress party's senior cabinet ministers were keen to hasten the appointment of Mr Gandhi, and why they short-circuited the normal procedure.

There is no doubt that Congress wants Mr Gandhi as Prime Minister, as tomorrow's meeting of the party will show. To have appointed a caretaker Prime Minister and to have waited for the full meeting of the parliamentary party would have wasted valuable time establishing the new man and his team.

A caretaker was likely to have been someone with aspirations of his own, but none of the present Cabinet team could reasonably be said to have such aspirations, for they have no power base.

When Jawaharlal Nehru died, there were many Congress stalwarts who could well have taken on the premiership, each with strong constituencies on which to draw support. When Lal Bahadur Shastri died, there were a few still.

But Mrs Gandhi's pre-eminence and domination of the Government and party have been such that there is no one who could have taken her place, and no one now who can take on her son.

An immediate recourse to the polls would also catch the Opposition on the hop. Though they could attack Mr Gandhi for his inexperience, they could scarcely charge him with anything else. They cannot accuse him of corruption, of mismanagement, of maladministration.



Site of Sorrow: Workers prepare the area where Mrs Gandhi will be cremated today on the banks of Delhi's Janana river.

The funeral guests

A precise eye on protocol keeps most heads of state at home

Indira Gandhi's funeral today will provide a rendezvous for leaders around the world, not only to pay last respects to a great leader, but also to meet India's new Prime Minister - her son Rajiv - and to confer amongst themselves (Reuters reports).

Presidents, Prime Ministers, and Cabinet members have begun arriving in Delhi for the state funeral. Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, representing the United States, has said he hopes to meet Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Soviet Prime Minister representing Moscow along with Mr Vasily

Kuznetsov, First Vice-President. But the absence of President Reagan, facing an election on Tuesday, President Chernenko, and certain other leaders will limit prospects of the funeral becoming a high-level informal summit, like some state funerals in the past.

President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan will be one of the leading mourners. He has called for improved ties to overcome a long legacy of hostility with Delhi.

The communist world will be amply represented. In addition to the Kremlin delegation, the funeral is drawing Mr Henryk

Jablonski, the Polish head of state and Mr Stefan Olszowski, the Polish Foreign Minister. President Todor Zhivkov of Bulgaria and Mr Lubomir Strougal, the Czechoslovak Prime Minister. Hungary is sending Mr Sandor Gaspar, the Vice-President.

Yugoslavia, closely linked with India in the Non-Aligned Movement, has sent President Djindjic and Mrs Milka Planinc, the Prime Minister and one of relatively few women government leaders.

China is sending Mr Yao Yilin, a deputy Prime Minister. Western diplomats in Peking said his rank was high enough

in protocol terms, higher than that of a Foreign Minister.

Perhaps the most influential Western leader to go to Delhi is Mrs Margaret Thatcher. Princess Anne will be representing the Queen.

In general Western Prime Ministers and Cabinet ministers are going rather than heads of state, due in part to protocol, diplomats said.

France will be represented by M Laurent Fabius, the Prime Minister, and M Claude Cheysson, the Foreign Affairs Minister.

Other prime ministers to attend will be Dr Garret FitzGerald of Ireland, Senhor

Mário Soares of Portugal, Señor Felipe Gonzalez of Spain, and Mr Andreas Papandreu of Greece.

Italy, West Germany, Denmark, Switzerland and Sweden sent their Foreign Ministers, Belgium its Interior Minister, and The Netherlands Price Claus, husband of Queen Beatrix.

Officials in these countries said the delegations fitted the occasion, while some said their prime ministers were tied up by prior commitments. A meeting in Ireland of European Community foreign ministers this weekend was postponed because of the funeral.

Army Sikhs

Mixing with other cults

From Our Own Correspondent Delhi

There were not many turbans to be seen in Delhi yesterday. Any Sikh who ventured on to the streets had to be bold, brave or exceptionally well-protected. There were no Sikh taxi drivers to be seen - a profession they have long dominated here.

But along the ring road, among the green-uniformed soldiers lounging in their lorries, negligently peering over the sights of their self-loading rifles or their sub-machine guns, were numbers of bright green turbans above fiercely bearded faces. For, where the Army is, there are many Sikhs still.

Many are organized into special Sikh units. There is a Sikh infantry regiment and a Sikh armoured regiment, though the Defence Ministry declines to say how many battalions there are in each.

The latest trend in the Army is to mix the Sikhs even more vigorously with the other religions in the forces. To that end non-Sikh officers are serving with Sikh regiments, and more Sikhs are correspondingly sent to non-Sikh regiments.

The British policy of building an Indian Army was to recruit from the "martial" races, the Pathans, Rajputs, and especially the Sikhs. The Sikh experience of hardship and martyrdom, their background of successful farming and their studiousness, made them classically suitable for military training.

The religion of members of the armed forces is not discussed by the Ministry of Defence, but the best estimates indicate that Sikhs form 10 to 12 per cent of their strength.

Death on the Delhi line

Passengers beaten and burnt

Delhi (AP, Reuters) - Hundreds of Hindu rioters attacked Delhi-bound trains yesterday, beating and burning to death dozens of Sikh passengers.

"Kill all the Sikhs," mobs shouted, according to one of the hundreds of stranded Sikh travellers huddled together at the railway station here, afraid to continue their journeys without an armed escort.

United News of India reported at least 28 Sikhs killed on four trains bound for the capital. "Whenever trains come on, bodies of Sikhs are taken off," said Mr Balvinder Singh, who arrived here on a train from Amritsar on Thursday afternoon, but chose not to continue to Bombay out of fear for the safety of his wife and two children.

The brutality was reminiscent of the communal carnage witnessed during India's partition in 1947, when Hindus and Muslims indulged in mass slaughter.

Bodies of four Sikhs killed on

the Bombay-Delhi Rajdhani Express were in full view two hours after the train's arrival. One body, shoeless and partly covered by a blue sheet, lay on a luggage cart. Others lay side by side, their legs entangled, on the platform.

A few carriages back, a Sikh lay face down on another connecting platform, his back charred by fire. Dozens of the train's windows were cracked or smashed. Glass and other debris littered the aisles.

Asked why the bodies had not been removed, a deputy station superintendent said: "We have to manage the stretchers, ambulance and police". Asked how many dead Sikhs had been brought in yesterday, he said: "Many more".

Mr Sidharth Bhatia, an Associated Press journalist based in Bombay, who was on the Rajdhani Express, said about 20 people armed with iron rods and stones broke into his compartment at the small

Tughlakabad station on the outskirts of the capital. They dragged a Sikh out of his seat by his hair, beat him with rods, pulled him outside, killed him and set his body on fire.

"The Sikh was thrown off the train, kicked and stoned and then the mob set fire to his body. I am a doctor and wanted to help him, but was locked into the compartment and could do nothing."

Dr Elizabeth Joyce, from London, was travelling on another train with her husband from Udaipur to Delhi when Hindus started exacting a blood revenge. Farther down the line, she and her husband saw another Sikh being pulled off the train. He was beaten to death with axe-handles.

"Mobs came in waves and attacked us and burnt and looted our homes and vehicles for 36 hours," Mr Kuldip Singh, General Secretary of the Akali Dal party's youth wing here said.

Superpower clash

Blaming of CIA arouses US fury

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

President Reagan, asked whether the Kremlin might try to exploit the assassination, said: "I think that's always a danger with regard to the Soviets."

A State Department spokesman said: "We strongly resent the Soviet allegations that the US, and specifically the CIA, were involved in, or inspired, this action of political terrorism."

"It is quite a disgusting line of argument to suggest that the

US is somehow involved in this very tragic development."

In November, 1979, an angry mob stormed and burnt the US Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan, after Iran Radio spread rumours of US complicity in the attack by fundamentalists on the Grand Mosque in Mecca, Saudi Arabia.

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, is hoping to meet Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Soviet Prime Minister, when they are in Delhi.

Nicaraguans vote tomorrow

Sandinista fervour versus opposition confusion

From Alan Tomlinson, Managua

As Nicaragua prepares to go to the polls tomorrow, the contrast between the fervour of Sandinista supporters and the confusion among sympathizers of the Opposition are vivid evidence of the deep differences within the country's revolutionary society.

The Sandinistas confidently expect to win an overwhelming majority and anticipate an exceptionally high turnout, despite the boycotting of the elections by the right-wing coalition of three parties which has attracted most attention among the Opposition.

Adherents of the single strongest opposition group, the

Independent Liberals, who might have expected to benefit from the coalition's abstention, find that their party has also officially pulled out. Yet its name and insignia remain on voting papers and candidates who disagree with abstaining are urging Liberal voters to go to the urns.

The other main party, the Democratic Conservatives, is also in a state of chaos. A meeting to decide whether to join the withdrawal was disrupted without a vote, leaving the possibility that some candidates may decline to take their seats in the National Assembly even if elected.

The four remaining parties are essentially small revolutionary groups, important within the Sandinistas framework of alliances, but relatively insignificant as serious alternatives for voters dissatisfied with the Government.

Dissatisfaction has grown out of inflation, food shortages and obligatory military service, the three domestic issues which opposition parties have focused on during the three-month campaign. But the central issue of the election has been the war against the US-backed counter-revolution, and sharply differing views on how to end it.

The ideology of the ruling

party has also become an important issue, with parties to the right of the Sandinistas questioning the sincerity of the Government's desire to give the Opposition a greater political role through the ballot box.

A national dialogue involving 30 social and political organizations has begun to examine the post-electoral state even before the country's 1.6 million registered voters make their choice.

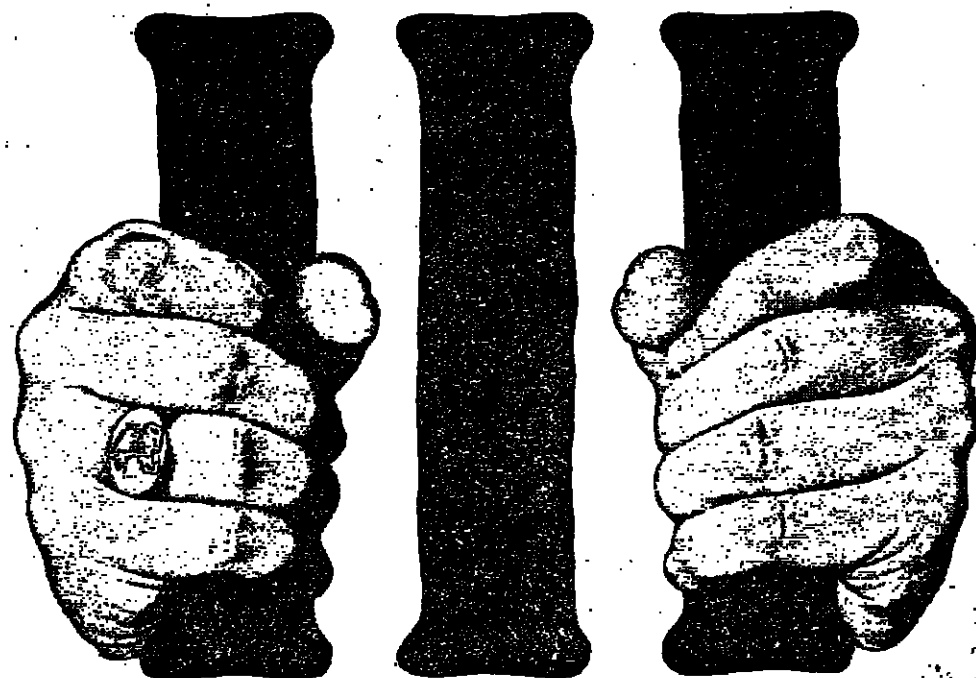
More than 100,000 people packed Managua's biggest square for the closing rally of the Sandinista campaign on Thursday night. Commandante Daniel Ortega, the junta leader, who is almost certain to become Nicaragua's first post-revolutionary President, spoke of "the real danger" of a US invasion if, as expected, President Reagan is reelected on Tuesday.

He said a vote tomorrow, for no matter which party, was a vote for Nicaragua and for peace. To abstain was a vote for intervention.

WASHINGTON: Eight Americans will act as unofficial observers at the elections and try to assess the effects on voting of the US-funded war against the Managua Government (Reuters reports).

Leading article, page 9

THE TRIAL OF RICHARD III



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A LONDON WEEKEND TELEVISION PRODUCTION FOR CHANNEL 4.

A CHANNEL FOUR BOOK OF THE PROGRAMME, CONTAINING A FULL TRANSCRIPT OF THE TRIAL, PUBLISHED BY ALAN SUTTON, IS AVAILABLE FROM BOOKSELLERS.

Unesco and Britain: Part 1

Biting the hand that feeds

Within two months Britain has to decide whether to follow the United States out of Unesco. In the first two articles, David Walker looks at how, after years of threats and bluster, the troubled United Nations agency may finally be forced into a fundamental reappraisal.

A mysterious fire set to destroy financial documents, a black potestante, espionage, exchange rate speculations, high life at the taxpayers' expense within sight of the Eiffel Tower: the story of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has recently had all the ingredients of a third rate novel.

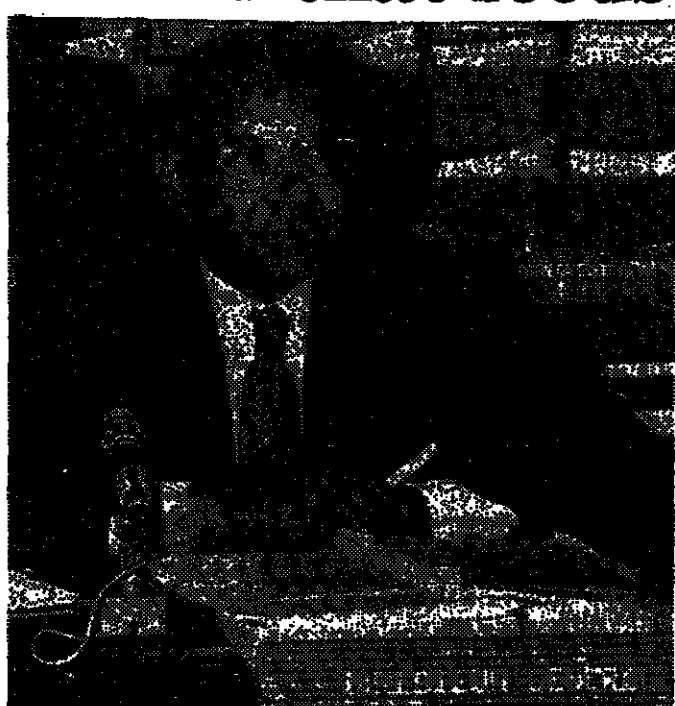
Villain of the piece in most accounts of Unesco is its black Director-General, Mr Amadou Mahtar M'Bow. He is Senegalese, Muslim, a prize product of French Africa, and a member of what Richard Hoggart called the "enclosed Byzantine system" of Unesco's Parisian bureaucracy.

He has more than fulfilled the aspirations of the Third World countries that 10 years ago were agitating for a non-white head of the UN's specialised agency. There are, however, a number of nations which have joined the nations of diplomacy - Britain and France - among the countries significantly over-represented on Unesco's staff.

There are policies. Where once Unesco was symbolized by literacy programmes and the rescue of Nabian monuments from the Nile, Mr M'Bow's tenure has seen emphasized the construction of "new world orders" consisting, as far as can be gauged, mainly of conference papers and anti-American resolutions.

But Mr M'Bow inherited his extraordinary personal powers from his French predecessor, M Rene Maheu, and from a constitution put together in a post-war glow by British idealists. Unesco's express objects are to advance the mutual knowledge and understanding of peoples: they defy measurement.

Unesco's problems are organizational: in common with other UN agencies, it sacrifices efficiency to representativeness. Its fiscal arrangements depend on a formula aligning population and gross national product which results in the United States carrying the lion's share, but the voting



Mr M'Bow: Putting emphasis on "new world orders".

strength - one state or statelet per vote - lies with the minimal contributors (see table).

The business efficiency argument against Unesco has now been encapsulated in a 177-page report by the General Accounting Office, a branch of the United States Congress. It strongly criticizes the management of staff and money, confirms suspicions that Unesco budgets are put together by throwing pieces of paper in the air and seeing how they fall, and says Unesco is too heavy with administrators and excessively centralized.

More telling than the efficiency arguments in the American decision to withdraw (the United States withdrew

Unesco 1984-85 budget	
United States	25.00
Soviet Union	10.41
Japan	10.19
West Germany	8.44
France	6.43
UK	4.51
Italy	3.69
Canada	3.04
Other major Western contributors	3.57
72 member states contributing 0.02 to 1.55%	23.72
80 member states contributing the minimum, 0.01%	0.80

contributions in 1975 in protest at Unesco's victimization of Israel) has been the agency's politics.

During the 1950s, Unesco established itself as a relatively harmless talking shop, split like the UN at large, between East and West. Since 1960 it has become a multifaceted development agency as well, though it lacks executive capacity.

Its activities include managing scientific cooperation (relatively cheap and probably not best served by a large bureaucracy) and cultural salvation, for example of Buddhist shrines in Sri Lanka. Difficult to assess is Unesco's work in reducing rising literacy.

In addition to practical activities, Unesco serves as a mill for Parisian Marxist rhetoric. During the 1970s it became just another forum for Soviet diplomacy, the Arab attack on Israel and the self-assertion of the Third World.

The reform of Unesco has been repeatedly mooted since the 1950s. The United States' announcement last December of impending withdrawal is the first sign of a member nation taking direct action to secure change.

Monday: Britain's choice



Barcelona breakthrough: A nurse holds Spain's first test-tube twins, Genma and Sergio Vila, born in the Catalan capital earlier this week. Each weighed about 7lb at birth.

French rent their new TV channel

From Diana Geddes Paris

Canal Plus, France's first independent television channel and Europe's first pay-TV, starts broadcasting at 8am tomorrow with a star-studded line-up of film, stage and sports personalities.

The advertising, carried on the three public television channels, is banned for Canal Plus, whose main income will come from its subscribers. They are to be charged just over £10 a month for the rental of a personalized decoding machine which will enable them to unscramble the coded programme signals. Nearly 200,000 requests for subscriptions have already been received.

In addition, programmes may be sponsored. Contracts worth 80m francs (£7m) have already been signed with companies such as Coca-Cola, Ortel, Adidas, Thomson and Kodak. The Canal Plus president, M Andre Rousselet, is well-placed to obtain such contracts being the managing director of Havas, the largest advertising firm in Europe.

Next year, France hopes to launch its first television satellite, which would enable viewers to receive a further four channels. However, many feel that it is not so much more channels as better quality that is needed in French television. A recent poll showed that only 39 per cent of viewers are satisfied with their television programmes, compared with 75 per cent who are satisfied with the radio.

It has yet to be seen whether the "new channels" financial independence from the Government will enable it to provide a more adventurous and critical coverage of the news.

China's old guard told to dismiss

From Mary Lee Peking

Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese leader, has renewed his call to elderly army officers to vacate their posts, the main newspapers reported yesterday. Putting younger officers in charge of the People's Liberation Army is as important as streamlining the army, Mr Deng told a seminar sponsored by the Central Military Commission of which he is chairman.

The Army should also support the development of the economy. Mr Deng urged the Air Force, the Navy and national defence industry to use their capabilities to this end. Some naval bases could be employed for civilian purposes, while the Air Force should spare equipment and personnel to aid civil aviation.

NAVAL CHIEF'S TRIP: China's naval chief, Mr Liu Huang, starts an 11-day tour of British naval armaments factories on Monday at a time when Peking is seeking to increase the capability of its backward Navy (Reuters reports).

British bridge slump

From a Bridge Correspondent, Seattle

The British men's team plummeted to thirteenth position after two unexpected defeats in the World Bridge Olympiad on Thursday.

Thailand, playing above form, won 16-14 and the British played substantially below form to lose 25-4 against Venezuela.

The leaders in Pool A after round 13 are:

- (1) Austria 271 (2) France 260
- (3) Poland 253 (4) Denmark

8,000-word denial by Packer

From Tony Daboudia Melbourne

Mr Kerry Packer, the head of Australian Consolidated Press, yesterday strongly denied allegations by the Costigan Royal Commission that he was linked with organized crime and a possible murder.

In a 13-page, 8,000-word document, Mr Packer described the commission's report as a "dishonest and malicious document". He said he had not financed a film tax avoidance scheme, and had not been involved in financing drug transactions or in the alleged murder of a Queensland bank manager, Mr Ian Cootie.

The Queensland police have reopened the investigation into Mr Cootie's death as a result of the report, which said Mr Frank Costigan QC, who headed the commission, was convinced that Mr Cootie was murdered. The commission report, on the activities of the Ship's Painters and Dockers Union, said major inquiries were warranted into matters relating to Mr Packer, including suspected murder.

Mr Packer's statement yesterday also denied that he had ordered the removal of a file to Singapore to frustrate Mr Costigan's inquiry. He said that with this statement, and the one he issued in September after publication of 42 summaries from the commission in the *National Times* magazine, he had answered every allegation against him and proposed to say no more.

Mr Packer's statement included a strong attack on Mr Costigan, saying he had made many errors of fact. It began: "Mr Costigan has concluded his Royal Commission as unjustly as he conducted it... He has disgraced the Institution of Royal Commissions and his own profession as a lawyer."

The Costigan report has indelibly demonstrated that substantial power invested in a person prepared to use it in a warped, arbitrary and unprincipled way can decimate individual rights and totally override basic principles of justice."

The enable's music-making, in a programme called "Love and Lamentation in Medieval France", was charged with an improvisatory flavour which gave the lie to the theory that such music is only esoteric, though neither did the three performers stoop to sensationalizing their material. Much of the evening was structured around the figure of Marie, Countess of Champagne. The *planctus* "Therusalem, Therusalem", a lamentation both for her and for her son Henri of Champagne, who was chosen as King of Jerusalem but fell to his

- (1) Indonesia 270 (2) USA 247
- (3) Italy 244 (4) Australia 243
- (5) Sweden 233 (6) Norway 232
- (7) Argentina 231

Stephen Poliakoff returns to the theatre after a three-year absence when *Breaking the Silence* opens at the Pit on Tuesday. Interview by Bryan Appleyard

The new land for a restless writer

There has been something grimly predictable about the publicity generated by Stephen Poliakoff. "Royal Court play by 19-year-old", it begins, moving on to "Playwright prodigy", to be followed inexorably by "Stephen Poliakoff is irritated with being labelled the Boy Wonder of the theatre."

After 13 years of that where exactly is Poliakoff?

Unfortunately, it is not an angle he is entirely happy to go along with: "Should one think about one's position at any time? Isn't that very destructive? Writing should be a process of getting on with it and doing it."

To Poliakoff his headline and prolific progress - writing plays such as *City Sugar*, television such as *Caught on a Train* and films such as *Runners* - is unamazing.

"It's the energy that matters. I know it takes energy to write a novel. But a novelist can fall into a rhythm. Novels are quite long and plays are quite short and it's a question of capturing one particular thing. That's why playwrights stop. You can't get into a rhythm unless, like Ayckbourn, you have to write for your own company and your own theatre."

As he speaks he seems like some drama student asked to express the word "intensity". He is a stocky, darkly bearded figure whose wirings never quite become fully-fledged fidgets but which nevertheless suggest an overpowering desire to be somewhere else.

His thumbs are alarmingly double-jointed and form curious angles in the air as he speaks. Or rather as he struggles with language - his sentences invariably emerge only after a series of disconcerting false starts. Equally disconcertingly they are frequently followed closely by comprehensive disclaimers.

He will throw in "humanist" as a reasonable description of his ethic and then deny it. He admits to his motives for doing this and then disclaims them.

"I'm trying to forestall people using those terms by using them myself. Rather a silly play really." Poliakoff is not one to be pinned down.

But at the centre of all his work lies the conviction that people should not be categorized, that we should not be crushed into thinking in straight lines. And so to *Breaking the Silence*, his second play to be produced by the Royal Shakespeare Company, which opens at the Barbican on Tuesday.

It is about the precarious process of the release of human creativity and energy and it is based on the experiences in immediately post-revolutionary Russia of Poliakoff's paternal grandfather and his family. But it is not - much waving of thumbs and writhing - repeat NOT a family memoir.

"The biographical events are a small part of the urge to write the play. I don't want the audience wondering what's true and what isn't. It's just that when you take something that's quite close to you you have to reboil it to make it into a universal fiction."

Poliakoff's grandfather was an extravagant nineteenth-century figure who persisted in his haut-bourgeois ways after the revolution. And, incredibly, he was indulged, given a sinecure and told to get on with it. The reason was that the authorities knew he was genuinely close to coming up with an invention of worldwide significance.

"I've always wanted to write this story because it fascinated me. That figure and all those contradictions - what happened to the women? Also it seemed in a funny way rather pertinent - the way the energy of people is released. Then suddenly I saw a way of doing it by setting it in the rather magnificent railway carriage he was given to do his job."

"I didn't want to write a sprawling epic. I wanted to keep people very much on the same level as events. The sense of things happening just outside the window, close enough for

Concerts

A faulty fashion

Philharmonia/Ashkenazy Festival Hall

Fashions in Mozart piano concerto performances have changed rapidly. In place of the full-size orchestra with conductor and dutiful soloist, the orchestra these days is likely to be slimmed down and the pianist will himself direct in (the theory goes) the eighteenth-century manner. Vladimir Ashkenazy took that course on Thursday with the Philharmonia, having some justification for dispensing with a separate conductor in that he was himself the conductor of the rest of the concert. The piece he played, the fresh, exuberant E flat Concerto K271, has been much heard recently: Pashia did it in similar fashion with the ECO, and Bilson has recorded it - though paradoxically, this "authentic" performance uses a contemporary piano.

Ashkenazy's group of strings last night was an example of 18th-century stringing. My own feeling is that the group ought to be small enough for the soloist to be able to direct without his fingers ever leaving the keys: that is to say, he should power the performance from within by playing continuously throughout and restraining the hand-waving. That is, however, a feat more difficult to achieve with a mellifluous modern piano than with an eighteenth-century style instrument.

Sequentia

Wigmore Hall

Things may have happened comparatively slowly eight centuries ago, but contrary to popular supposition souls were just as sensitive and emotions ran just as deep as today. Few groups dedicated to the music of that time manage to perform it with the subtlety achieved by Sequentia, the Cologne-based group who on Thursday began an Early Music Network tour.

The ensemble's music-making, in a programme called "Love and Lamentation in Medieval France", was charged with an improvisatory flavour which gave the lie to the theory that such music is only esoteric, though neither did the three performers stoop to sensationalizing their material. Much of the evening was structured around the figure of Marie, Countess of Champagne. The *planctus* "Therusalem, Therusalem", a lamentation both for her and for her son Henri of Champagne, who was chosen as King of Jerusalem but fell to his

death in 1197 before he could be crowned, typified their approach. Barbara Thornton sang with a slightly folksy but wholly apposite tone, while Margaret Tindeman's fiddle delicately embellished the text with what I took to be spontaneous elaborations.

But there were more good things besides this. The other member of the group, Benjamin Bagby, projected a flexible and pleasingly light baritone, and in Richard the Lionheart's celebrated prison song "Ja nous gris ne dirai raison", a long consoling gesture as well as a political one, he accompanied himself deftly on the harp.

Both singers combined witily in Conon de Bethune's dialogue "Ce fut l'autre pais", which covers a series of more than a fifth, while Philippe le Chancelier's "Ve mundo a scandalis", a song which moralizes on the undesirability of scandal, was one of the most ravishingly beautiful things in this revelatory evening.

Stephen Pettitt

THE ARTS



Poliakoff: Defying categorization, never pinned down

you to smell but never to be sure quite what's happening."

Poliakoff's own - rather reluctantly described - analysis of his oeuvre involves two strands: his "urban canyon" plays set in the postwar desolation of Britain's cities and his "European" plays, *Breaking the Silence* goes back to the Russian roots of the latter category and the story was told to him when a teenager by his grandmother.

The use of that brief, creative era in Russia before Stalinism intervened is also significant for Poliakoff's work because of its contrast with the usual cultural background of his drama. In *Breaking the Silence* the environment is vibrant, alive and dangerous, but at least it offers the opportunity for human contradictions and ambiguities to be embraced and stimulated.

In his "urban canyon" plays his characters find themselves in a wasteland in which all their energies are absorbed by the simple effort of remaining human.

"The people in the urban plays are not zombies, they are not turning into urban vega-

tables. They fight back, they have an imaginative life that makes them human. That is, if anything, an over-optimistic view. Certainly I've never thought of myself as a pessimistic writer. It is a pessimistic view of the culture - obviously in Thatcher's England..."

But in his drama the politics emerge more obliquely than in the work of his equally committed colleagues.

His first interest is character so he works specifically against the style of Brechtian alienation, aiming rather for total involvement: "My plays are designed to work on people's imaginations."

But what, I wonder, is all the energy for? What do his plays do? "Do?" he looks startled. "Do? People used to feel that all playwrights under 40 had to justify their existence, set themselves up as crusaders for something. What do they do? I don't know. You set out to involve, entertain, to move people, I suppose, make them look at the world differently. If you achieve just one tiny bit of that..."

Television

Everlys wake up again

In Kentucky they pass round the guitar as we might hand round the tea and grandad, grandma and all pick away and divert the assembled company from troubles at the pit and all the ills that the sometimes mean life of an industrial area can be heir to.

Their music is an amalgam of negro blues, country music and rock, formed into a twangy, bouncy rhythm by the assiduous practice of generations.

Out of this Appalachian culture in the 1950s came the Everly Brothers, Don and Phil. Father and mother, of course, played too, and the whole family was on the road often. But it was Don and Phil who made it big.

The Everly Brothers, Songs of Innocence and Experience marked Arena's return to BBC2 last night, a 95-minute film tracing the brothers' origins, their rise to fame, the big bust-up in 1973, and the return to amity and singing togetherness 10 years later.

Not everyone would agree with the woman who compared one of them to a "Stradivarius when he was on the high notes", but even those who are content

to be remote from the world of rock cannot help but have their hearts invaded at some time or other by the exhortative "Wake Up Little Suzie", the love-struck "All I Have to do is Dream", or the adolescent lament, "Bye-Bye, Love".

Arena, as the length of the film indicated, had retained the memory of the joy of this cultural - phenomenon and wished to celebrate its return.

It was an excellent piece of film which would probably have retained more of its audience for longer had there been less veneration in the cutting room. The Kentucky obsession with the old guitar was established over and over again and old-timers allowed to go on more than a bit.

Phil and Don are now showing the signs of middle years but the crowds come along, nose to nose, to see them sing. Anthony Wall did a good, moody job of directing and there was some excellent cross-cutting between the Everlys, bean-poles then and husky now. Kentucky came over strongly.

Dennis Hackett

Theatre

Two Planks and a Passion Greenwich

The merry middle ages have not had much theatrical attention since the heyday of Christopher Fry, and on the face of it, Anthony Minghella's account (first seen at Exeter last year) of a royal party gate-crashing the York Mystery cycle in 1392 is just the kind of airy fiction that evaporated with *The Lady's Not for Burning*.

As in Fry, a smelly epoch makes a deodorized come-back; there is a similar reliance on charming anachronism, and the stealthy return of a Christian message under a playfully inconsequential surface. There, however, the resemblance comes to an end, as *Two Planks and a Passion* turns out to be a robustly well-plotted piece whose graceful style is the least of its points of interest.

Its comic mainspring is the rivalry between the Mayor of York and the master of the Painters' Guild which comes to a head over their preparations for the Corpus Christi play. The situation is first presented at ground level, from the viewpoint of the labourers and apprentices whose plans to go ahead with their traditional show are bedevilled by a chaplain who wants to rewrite it

and the Master who begrudges spending a penny on the props. Taking advantage of Richard II's mysterious visit to York at the time of the Mystery festival, Mr Minghella exploits his presence to whip the rivalry between the two city grandees up to a climax.

So far as their story is concerned, the result is a fourteenth-century equivalent of E F Benson's "Lucia" novels, with each side trying to outdo the other in status gestures, as the Guild Master (Roger Sloman) lashes out on acres of purple silk and gold paint, while the Mayor grovelingly entertains the royal pair in fractured French.

The royals - mischievously played by Michael Maloney and Cathryn Harrison - join in the game in a style that combines childish teasing with regal calculations: beginning in sheer comedy that is gradually darkened by the Queen's approaching death. Finally she witnesses the labourers' rustic "Crucifixion" while their masters' empty gilded spectacle plays to a deserted street. Equipped with some fine fading frescoes by Deirdre Clancy, Danny Boyle's production walks its stylistic tightrope with great poise, and offers some splendid upstaging tactics from Fred Pearson and Gillian Barge.

Irving Wardle

Radio

Tale of two talk shows

Anything would be better than Lacuna ("a hiatus, blank, missing part": OED) with which on two distant recent Thursday mornings Radio 4 presented a great gap filled with empty chat. Certainly Talking Sides (producers, Juliet May and Elaine Bedell) has been by and large a good deal better; it is a live studio discussion with participating audience, chaired - if that is quite the right expression - by Paul Sieghart and it has to a great extent belied the adversarial implications of its title.

Beginning with a lively hour on the press, it moved on to a thoughtful debate about the police Bill, but then last Thursday went down market and downhill with a discussion about class which, like most of its kind, was rapidly founding in confusion, assertion and improbability by half-way through when I lost interest in it.

Not one of those contributing appeared to have the slightest appreciation of the complex and devious nature of the subject and not even Mr Sieghart with all his professional skills of advocacy could make it seem otherwise. And Mr Sieghart is extremely good at managing this sort of thing: relaxed, courteous and encouraging, quick-thinking, gently persistent.

But to say that he chairs the proceedings is not correct: he preambulates them, microphone in hand, as I discovered when I turned on my television. For *Talking Sides* is only make-believe radio; properly speaking, it is a television studio discussion on which we happen to be eavesdropping, and they call the technique "Radio-vision".

I heard the first one without realizing this and the second without doing anything about it, but was struck by what seemed to be a rather productive tension in the interchanges. Having now seen the goings-on I suspect that people are very probably responding with that extra pound of energy and showmanship to the knowledge that a great many other people are watching them.

So television lends its built-in sense of occasion to radio which always has a job creating one. And it works. I only hope that questions such as class don't come up too often.

But of course they do, questions yet more impossible, such as "Did Christ really rise from the dead?" or even "Does God exist?" The first of these occupied most of an edition of Poles Apart (Radio 4, Sundays, producers Lyn Webster and Liz Carney), in which the new Bishop of Durham faced some of his critics, and at least it is possible to report that this half hour, unlike a good many of its predecessors, was conducted with the minimum of heat and hostile confrontation.

Yet underlying the measured talk, it was difficult not to detect that all too familiar assumption of Christian primacy, uniqueness and necessity. All mankind, it says, is or ought to be the beneficiary of a resurrection which is the sole property of Christians and without which the whole religious enterprise is vain.

What then of the greater part of mankind who do not see the matter in those terms at all?

The second doubtful question is the subject matter of the Case Against God (Radio 4, Sundays and Thursdays; producer, Chris Rees), in which Gerald Priestland is holding an eight-part inquiry into "the existence and character of God". To judge by programme one, we are going to be glad of the Jewish contributors before the end.

Rabbi Alan Levine of Jerusalem recited a Jewish version of the Lord's Prayer, which goes like this: "The word asks that ancient question, and what is it? Dai-dai-dai-dai... And the answer is, dai-dai-dai-dai..."

"So", responded Mr Priestland, "it's all a load of rubbish?" - pitching his voice in a way which left open the suspicion that he thought the answer to be yes.

"I didn't say that", Levine answered him. "The question is an anguished question. Why has it become a rubbish question? Because the person who asks the question knows there is no answer..."

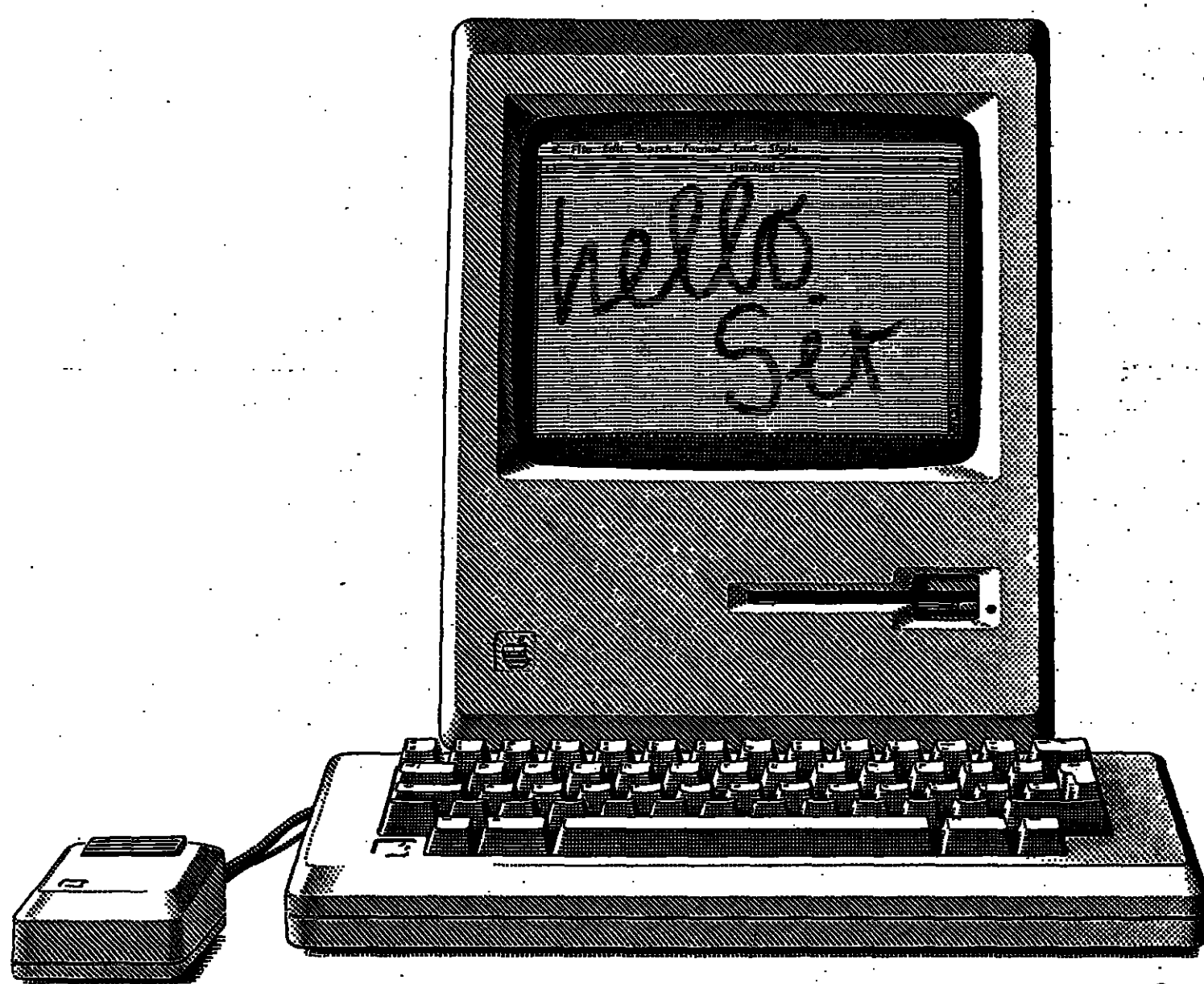
In my understanding, this is true. We know, in some sense, that such questions cannot be put in the terms available for asking questions. Yet we go on asking them and because we ask rubbish questions, we get rubbish answers or no answers at all.

I suspect that Rabbi Levine may have rendered it unnecessary to hear the remaining seven parts of *The Case Against God*.

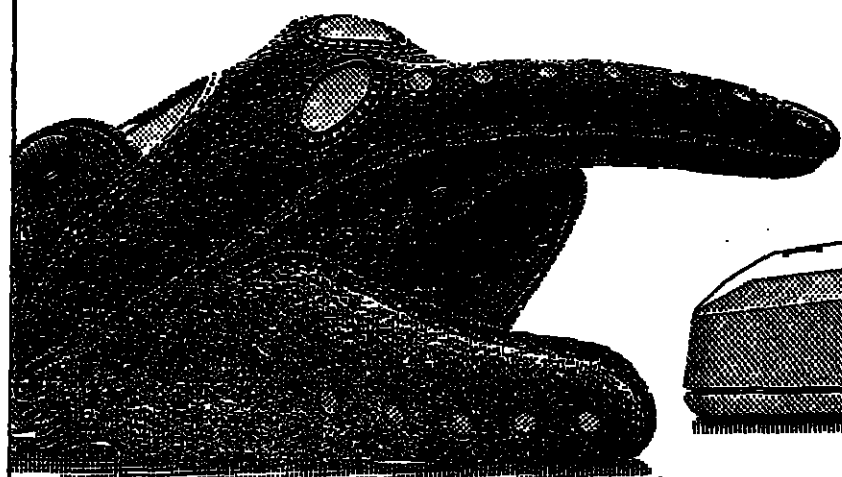
With the time thus unoccupied, you might do better to turn to Derek Robinson, who in *Mighty Myths* (Radio 4, Wednesdays; producer, Carol Stone) is presently undermining a few cherished beliefs, such as that Sweden holds the record for successful suicide or that the Spanish Armada hopelessly outnumbered the gallant little English. Neither is true. Nor, it seems, could the events of the first Christmas be quite as they have come down to us.

David Wade

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...is to drive it home.



Test drive a Macintosh, the business computer from Apple.

It would take hours to tell you all about Macintosh. And it all sounds a little too good to be believed anyway.

We won't waste your time. We'd rather you simply take one away for a while, for free,* and find out for yourself.

That's just to show you how much we believe in it.

So take a few minutes Monday morning to go go down to your local Apple dealer and grab your

Macintosh before someone else does. Remember, you're not the only one who's interested in finding out about Macintosh.

And you're not the only one reading this advertisement.

We'll just see you as soon as you return to give back the Macintosh.... Or will we?

Call Freefone Apple for your nearest dealer.

For your nearest Apple dealer, dial 100 and ask for Freefone Apple or post this coupon today.

Please send me details on the 'Test Drive' offer and the address of my nearest Apple dealer. Send to: Apple Computer (UK) Limited, Advance House, Brent Crescent, London NW10 7XR.

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Apple Computer

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SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

Rankov and Rancour

Controversy takes over once again when the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race Committee meets on Thursday to discuss the vexed question of boat race eligibility. They will eat a steak lunch with the future of the boat race at stake. The meeting is a knock-on from the row over Boris Rankov, who won his sixth rowing blue for Oxford in 1983 when part-student and part-professional. The universities had adopted totally opposed positions on the issue. Cambridge says that increasing postgraduate participation wrecks an undergraduate's chance of winning a blue, which is a bad thing. Oxford says that, what with the growing number of women undergraduates, increasing postgraduate participation is the only way to keep rowing standards high, which is a good thing. Comparative standards have either drastically in other sports, but not yet in rowing.

The committee will debate a compromise agreement which has been in force since October last year and which, though it is intended to prevent another Rankov, still gives the energetic a theoretical opportunity to win eight blues. As the agreement stands, it satisfies neither party. Meanwhile, hostilities continue on the water this weekend, when both universities contest the Fours Head of the River race.

● Olympic quadruple gold medalist Carl Lewis has signed on for dancing lessons at drama school. No public appearances are planned; he says he is just getting fit for the indoor athletic season.

Filly buster

The choosing of any horse's name has to be undertaken with care; naming a splendid daughter of Alydar has given rise to inordinate humming and hawing. But after a series of scintillating gallops, the decision was finally made to saddle the filly with the fine-tempering name of Alydar's Best. Since assuming the name, she has appeared twice on the race course, and has two victories to show for it. Trainer David O'Brien, who won this year's Derby with Secretariat, is aiming her at the 1985 Derby. She will have to be genuinely superlative to do that — the last filly to win the Derby was Fiddlers in 1916. Only five other fillies have done it since the race was first run in 1780. Alydar's Best is currently 32-1.

Thigh of relief

Officials with the British women's football team were surprised at the interest generated in Jordan by their recent tour, since an earlier men's tour had revealed no lurking Jordanian passion for the game. But at an international match they not only attracted a capacity crowd, but riot police were needed to keep back the crowds when the girls took off their tracksuits, bottoms to play in their usual short shorts. The Jordanian team play with tracksuit bottoms first in place. The British team had to be locked up in the changing room until the crowd had dispersed, and required a 24-hour police guard throughout the tour.

Sack and ashes

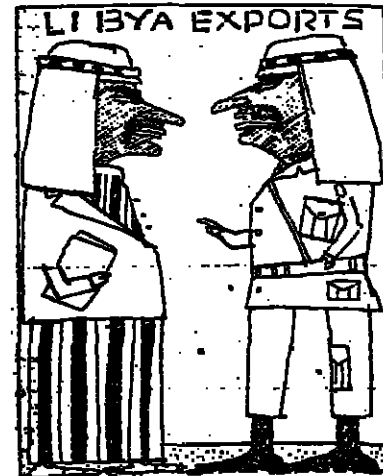
Quote of the week from C. L. R. James, the Marxist Trinidadian cricket writer and author of the acknowledged classic *Beyond a Boundary*: "I have never seen such a miserable body of people claiming to represent England as the present team. My advice would be to sack the lot, selection committee and all, and then summon Gower, and say: 'Build a team, you have at least two years'."

● The soon to be published *Who's Who of Cricketers* contains the career figures of every man ever to have played first-class cricket in England — all 12,000 of them. Of these, 11 didn't bat or bowl once.

John and Don

J.M. "Johnny" Taylor is not a name to send cricket historians diving into their copy of *Wisden* but, I discover, he was the man the young Donald Bradman took for his model. "Somehow or other," Bradman writes, "his style of batting, his superb outfielding, and innate modesty made a great impression on me." Taylor's most memorable achievement was match-saving 108 for Australia in a last-wicket stand of 127 — still a record in England-Australia tests and still the Australian record against all opposition. I am indebted for this nugget of knowledge to the new edition of David Firth's *England versus Australia: a pictorial history of Test Matches since 1877*.

BARRY FANTONI



'Get it right: the food's for the miners, the guns for the IRA' (Barry Fantoni's new book of Times Diary cartoons is published this week by Anthony Blond, price £4.95).

With a request for a sharply higher licence fee imminent, Stuart Young, chairman of the BBC, tells David Hewson why viewers would suffer if it bowed to demands to go commercial

Breaks we don't want

Q: One would have expected that someone with your background — a successful entrepreneur, close to Tory opinion with a brother (Lord Young) in the Cabinet — to have been the first to support the introduction of advertising and commercial competition into television.

A: I think you are right. If I had not been connected to the BBC I think, for the wrong reasons, I would have been attracted to the idea of advertising. The great fallacy of people who rush into print and say the BBC should take advertising is that they don't look into the matter in depth and see what actually happens if you start going down that slippery slope.

The advertising agency, D'Arcy-MacManus & Maass, believes that if the BBC took a small amount of advertising, 15 seconds an hour initially, the licence fee could be pegged at £46 for several years. Isn't this reasonable?

It is a very attractive argument. It would be better if it was founded on fact. The actual amount required, supporting their argument, would be at least 1 minute 20 seconds. That's a straightforward financial argument. They've got the wrong figures.

But that does not go to the root of my objection to advertising. Talk to ABC, CBS and NBC in America and ask how they work out their schedules. The person with the loudest voice, the person who takes the final decision, is the president of the sales department. It is not the talent side of television that decides. ITV has a monopoly, thank heavens, of raising money from advertising. So when it comes to prime time it isn't competitive in the sense of what is being shown.

There are the only channels showing advertising, so the sales department, quite rightly, has absolutely no say in the scheduling of what the public sees. If we were competitive I dread to think what would happen. Ultimately the sales department would be driving the schedules.

Take TV-am. It won its franchise with some brilliant individuals who wanted to produce a credible news and current affairs early morning show. But in the first week or two the viewing figures did not live up to expectations and the advertisers bailed out. It was Britain's first example of an advertising-led television programme because it gradually went further and further down market until it ended up with Roland Rat, with advertising revenue coming in at the lowest common denominator and the IBA powerless to keep to its high-minded principles.

Is *Breakfast Time* any more.

Substantially. I think you will find that if you compare, ours is basically news-led. I'm not going to score the cheap point of the Brighton bombing because that's a one-day situation.

If we reach the situation where all we're concerned about is advertising revenue then you end up going away from public service broadcasting. So I would like to see how the BBC could put on a promenade concert on BBC1 on Saturday night at prime time if it needs to sell advertising. But the climate of public and political opinion is very firmly against large, state-funded enterprises shored up by monopoly. Is it realistic to believe that the BBC can escape this shift?

Totally unrealistic. Of course the BBC has got to think the world is



changing. We're thinking all the time. How I believe the licence fee should be improved from the public point of view is that we should hope that the Government would agree to broadening the base.

The first thing I would like to see is the introduction of a car radio tax. There are approximately 17 million vehicles in the country today, and of these I believe more than 10 million have radio installed. If the Government were to agree to a car radio licence fee of £10 a year that would produce £100m. It would be a very easy tax to collect. Where the road fund £20 you would simply make it £30. You would simply have a different colour coding (on the licence), red or green, or have an R on it, and when the police do their anti-aerial campaign if the car has an aerial it has one colour tag, if it doesn't, it has another.

It would affect a market which is not actually underprivileged. I

believe 70 per cent of cars are registered in the names of companies, so it doesn't affect the individual. The 30 per cent registered in the names of individuals and large are the middle class and the better off.

In time I would like to see a television licence, not a household licence. I happen to have four sets in my home. I don't actually believe I should pay the same amount as the deprived one-parent family living in one room with one set. That would start to iron out the differences in society. I'm not saying it's easy, but it would be more equitable.

What would you say to people who never watch the BBC or listen to it on their car radios?

Statistics show that there are far fewer of these people than the popular press would lead you to believe. From the independent reviews I think I am right in saying that every week over 90 per cent of

the population at some time look at a BBC programme and over 90 per cent look at an ITV programme. The mythical group of people who never watch BBC is fairly small. When it comes to radio, there are not that many people around the country who don't listen.

How would you define public service broadcasting?

I believe it has got to cover the totality of interest, apart from the charter responsibilities to inform, to educate, and to entertain. It is about quality programmes for minority interests and popular programmes that are quality.

Do not think for a moment that I am saying that the ITV companies aren't doing a very good job. But I say they do it because we are here. The *South Bank Show* is the result of the BBC spending £150m on arts programmes, and £7m on music programmes. If you're going to tell me as chairman of the BBC that I have to raise £100m from advertising then I can't have *Riverdance*. I've got to have *Blankety Blank* and you're going to end up with wall-to-wall saleable programmes.

How can the public be satisfied with the result of the independent efficiency audit on the BBC ordered by the Home Secretary when you were allowed to choose the firm which is carrying out the report? We were given the choice of three firms. But the independence and integrity of those firms is such that the report they produce will be totally independent and I do not expect that report to be a whitewash on behalf of the BBC. In fact I am hopeful that it is going to produce things that will enable us to make alterations. I wouldn't suggest that we're perfect. I think we're bloody good. But there is fine tuning. How much of the problem is overmanaging?

I think that within the industry there are certain manning practices which have developed that are less than desirable. But what I do know for a fact is that any manning difficulties that there are within the BBC are nothing as compared to the manning difficulties in commercial television. There was a time in the BBC when we had four people per transmitter. Today we have half a person, one man covers two transmitters. That is because the technology is so advanced that we have been able to make redundancies, and they have all been made. I'm talking about hundreds of people.

Do you think the BBC will ever escape its battle with the press every time the licence fee question arises?

I don't think it will ever alter, because the public's expectation of the BBC is greater than its expectation of other organizations. You own the BBC, and as the owner of the BBC you are entitled to expect excellence. We've got to live up to that expectation, so I don't mind that criticism at all.

Your fears about the effects of advertising on the BBC can be justified only if the appropriate regulatory bodies allow the Corporation and the commercial network to follow a double standard. Surely what we need is not less competition in broadcasting, but more competition backed by tighter regulation?

The regulatory authority cannot have teeth when the financial imperative is stronger. If it is financial survival or regulation, history has shown that regulations weaken.

Joseph Connolly reveals profits and perils on the bookshelf



Up: Fleming, Wodehouse, Heaney

Staying put: Archer, Plath, Solzhenitsyn

Who's who of the best-collectors

bad writers are collected in any field at all. It is concurrently true, though, that there are quite a few good-to-fine writers (Stanley Middleton, Bryan Forbes) who are not collected and never have been; but this situation is never irreversible. The biggest rises in interest and value during the last seven years have occurred with the lighter, more entertaining authors (such as e.e. cummings) in no way denigrating their very high quality) although there is a highly discernible trend towards younger, heavier, more literary fiction inspired in part by the razzamattaz surrounding the Booker Prize.

For now, though, the most collected authors are P. G. Wodehouse, Agatha Christie, Ian Fleming, Dick Francis, Roald Dahl, John Le Carré and Raymond Chandler speaking up for the "entertainers", while the first division of the heavy books includes William Golding, John Fowles, Graham Greene, Seamus Heaney, James Joyce, Philip Larkin, Evelyn Waugh, Iris Murdoch, Anthony Powell, George Orwell, J. R. Tolkien and Virginia Woolf.

In the world of children's literature, Richard Crompton, Roald Dahl and Beatrix Potter are collected, while the much-maligned Enid Blyton is not, and nor is Anthony Browner (the "Jennings" books) which demonstrates a gross aberration of taste on the part of juvenile collectors everywhere, as he is better than most of the others put together. In spy-and-thrillerland, Ian Fleming, Len Deighton, John Le Carré and Frederick Forsyth are collected, while Robert Ludlum, Hammond Innes, Alistair MacLean and Jeffrey Archer are not.

Good or otherwise though they may be, the hugely library-borrowed romantic novelists are not collected at all, so out go Catherine Cookson, Victoria Holt, Barbara Cartland and George Meyer is collected, but only for the early detective stuff, and not Regency slush. Of the 1930s movement, Auden, Isherwood and MacNeice are collected, but the sole survivor, Spender, is not collected with an anti-enthusiasm. Only a couple of "Angry Young Men" are still avidly collected (Kingsley Amis and Colin Wilson) the rest having

fallen by the wayside, all passion spent. Tolkien is collected, Stephen Donaldson and Richard Adams are not (except for *Waterhouse Down*, which is). Harold Pinter and Tom Stoppard are quite rightly collected, but so too should be Keith Waterhouse (in his playwriting capacity, with Willis Hall), Alan Ayckbourn, John Mortimer, David Mercer and Dennis Potter, and they are not.

One begins to see how a picture of overall quality and "importance" emerges. Huge sales and cults by no means guarantee collectability — no one will ever require a first edition of *The Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady*.

The last seven years have not seen only meteoric rises. Many authors are worth less in real terms than they were in 1977. The deaths of authors such as Priestley, Koestler and Benjamin have not resulted in a major rise in value, even the murder of John Lennon failed to propel his two little books into stardom — they are still worth what they always were, £15-£20. The list of authors who have more or less stayed put is nearly as long as that of the high flyers. Behan, Capote, Day-Lewis, Donleavy, Richard Hughes, John Osborne, Sylvia Plath (except for the few exceptional rarities), Philip Roth, Bertrand Russell, John Updike, Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Gore Vidal, Elizabeth Taylor.

Finally I should like to state the value of Ian Fleming's *Casino Royale*. Everyone is sick to death of reading the value of *Casino Royale*, which is touted variously and wildly as hovering somewhere between the Koh-i-Noor diamond and a substantial proportion of the National Debt. It is worth £700 or £800 in the dust-wrappers, £300 or £400 without.

Joseph Connolly's *Modern First Editions, revised and updated*, will be published by Orbis on November 19 (£15).

Woodrow Wyatt

What the Colonel wants of Scargill

On Monday Mr Wedgwood Benn complained that it was "odiously hypocritical" to attack Mr Scargill for dealing with Colonel Gaddafi. The National Coal Board through its subsidiary Compower, under contract to the Libyan government, has been teaching Libyans English and computer skills. If it is all right, Benn argues, for the coal board to have financial relations with Colonel Gaddafi, why is it not all right for Scargill?

Mr Benn could have added that we have considerable trade with Libya, sending that country far more exports than we receive in return. We trade with South Africa, Russia, Iran, Kuwait and all manner of unsavoury dictatorships. Why, therefore, should Scargill be condemned by Mr Kinnock, who described the country as vile and said that any Libyan money given to the miners was "an insult"?

Letters in *The Times* indicate sympathy with this viewpoint. Examples are given of British Telecom and British Steel going to Libya to sell their services. It is not merely the coal board which is accessible to training. Libyans almost any organization in Britain is willing to take money from Libya whether for goods or technical help. So long as the Government allows this, and is pleased with the contribution it makes to our balance of payments, why should Libya be out of bounds to Mr Scargill?

The reason is this. Colonel Gaddafi pays for goods and services. What were the services that Gaddafi thought he was buying from some leaders of the NUM, who had not consulted the rest of their executive on their approach to him? They could not have been offering to train coal miners, or to supply expertise on how to run trade unions and organize strikes.

There are no trade unions in Libya in any sense which would be recognized by the TUC. There were some before King Idris was deposed by Gaddafi. He dissolved them. Now there are People's Committees created by the Colonel which owe total allegiance to the government. They do not negotiate working conditions or pay. They are political cadres keeping the people in line and acting as informers.

Strikes are forbidden. Any strike is regarded as a strike against the people and is punishable by death. There have been no pay rises for three years. Mr Scargill is not naive, as is sometimes suggested. He knows all this very well. He knows that any money ostensibly offered by non-existent Libyan trade unions which have no money is money from the Libyan government.

The *Daily Mirror* last Tuesday published the transcript of the conversation which Colonel Gaddafi had with Roger Windsor, the NUM chief executive. The paper got it from the Libyan Television and News agency, Mr Windsor began: "Thank you for receiving me at such short notice, and for allowing me to make representations to you on behalf of the British National Union of Mineworkers". So the initiative came from the NUM side, not from Colonel Gaddafi. Mr Windsor then proceeded with a lurid account of repression against striking miners.

The number of casualties so far reached is five dead in addition to 30,000 injured and 8,000 imprisoned in British jails. This repression, it seems, included "our president, Arthur Scargill, who was beaten by the British police". Colonel Gaddafi was further informed that "miners' families are a target of hunger and hardship, reaching the extent of their inability to feed their children and bury their dead". At the end of this moving speech Mr Windsor made the appeal

which was the purpose of the visit: "We need all the money that you can send us through the Libyan trade unions."

Colonel Gaddafi replied with warmth and sympathy and assured the NUM of "Libya's solidarity in their struggle to gain their legitimate rights". Finally I can confirm that the Libyan trade unions will contribute substantial cash to enable you to win your struggle against Mrs Thatcher, the American lackey. We shall make sure the money is sent to you into a foreign bank account.



Gaddafi: he too wants to see Mrs Thatcher overthrown

Colonel Gaddafi is not promising the money because he is a compassionate man: his name does not appear high on the list as a contributor to saving starving children in Africa. The Colonel was promising the money for the same reason he gives it to the IRA: he aims at maximum disruption in countries hostile to his brand of dictatorial socialism.

That is the service he wants from Mr Scargill. If Gaddafi could help prolong the strike he would be delighted at any damage it caused Britain and her government. We must assume that the Colonel is not interested in the handsome offers made by the NCB to the executive of the NUM.

The Colonel sees in Scargill a man of similar outlook. Both believe that as a means of getting your way violence is preferable to the ballot box. On June 27, speaking at a Communist Party rally called Marx with Sparks, Scargill said: "I don't accept we are landed for the next four years with this government", and called for "working people to take extra-parliamentary action to defeat the Tories". Both leaders believe in a very rough kind of socialism, so long as they are running it. Mr Scargill is the man who said of Poland: "I am opposed to Solidarity because I believe it is an anti-socialist organization, whose desire is to overthrow the socialist state."

Mr Scargill is an avowed Marxist who has several times said that the object of his is to overthrow the government. Gaddafi, also, would like to see Mrs Thatcher overthrown. The two are natural allies, although I acquit Mr Scargill of any desire to engage in the type of terrorist murders which are Gaddafi's specialty.

Mr Scargill was clearly surprised that people did not realize his affinity with Gaddafi, that they have not yet understood his politics. His first reaction on the Libyan disclosure was, "Our union welcomes any financial contribution from trade unions anywhere to support our campaign."

Aid to striking miners has come from Russia and Iran. Curious countries but these countries, so far as we can judge, are not helping the IRA or murdering policemen in St James's Square.

Colin Webb

Guys and ghouls come out to prey

The ring at the doorbell on Wednesday night was unexpected. Too early for Christmas carols, our neighbour had already borrowed the radiator key, we had had the day's evangelical visit, the man had already called offering primula plants, and Friends of the Earth were due for their bundles of newspapers next Wednesday. Who could it be?

"Hello. Trick or treat," said the little girl. "Hello", we said. "No thank you", and tried to close the door.

"Wait a minute please, we thought you wouldn't mind really." In the half light of the porch they looked a bit strange and gaudy. Were they ill, poor and dishevelled? Were they human guys seeking early pennies? We gave them a small coin for the usual reason — to get rid of them. They went giggling away.

All was made clear when Victoria came home the next morning after spending the night with a friend. "We went to play trick or treat", she said happily. "I got 50p." It transpired that Victoria and her friend had got into some scruffy clothes and gone round to see another friend round the corner. That friend's parents had paid up — the treat. What would the trick have been?

"Well, we don't know really. We would have said, done or sung something nasty I suppose."

Victoria, except when goaded beyond endurance by her brothers, never does any of those things. Except, apparently, on this particular night. She was, she thought, offering someone the chance to bribe her not to put a curse on them, or, failing some buying-off, to effect a nasty curse, whatever it might be. That seems to be the way they do things in America on Halloween.

Come to think of it, we had hardly seen any guy at all on the pavements outside the stations and by the bus stops. Pathetic little bundles of rags soliciting a financial celebration of the death of Guy Fawkes seem to have been given way in some parts to little children dressed frightfully, or to frighten, or both. Everyone is doing it, said Victoria.

Maybe, but the American tradition, I am told, is to do it for sweets or biscuits. One of her goading brothers, Edward, is too old for children's games, and sneered at the venture.

"You could at least have done it to collect money for Ethiopia." True, but they don't really want boiled sweets and chocolate drops in Addis Ababa. Mr Maxwell would not approve of that.

In the end, Victoria's tricky haul will go to charity and not even on fireworks to celebrate Mr Fawkes's immolation. We doubt whether all the money demanded with menaces will go that way: a colleague was confronted as he parked his car outside his north London home by three big and burly masked youths on the same night. He assumed his tyres would be let down so he paid the extortionists 10p. He could hardly have given them a shortcake biscuit. And he expects they'll be round for Christmas, threatening to sing him a carol.

When I were very young we used to beg chewing gum from victorious American servicemen ("Get any gum, chum?") but were never allowed to seek pennies for a guy and could sing carols only with the church choir when it did its rounds. Any attempt to trick or treat would have been brought to the attention of our parents, and we would have suffered a nasty curse, and no treats.

مكتبة الأمل



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

CBI: HEALING THE RIFT

However much the CBI and its members may have celebrated Mrs Thatcher's election in 1979, it came too soon for the annual conference to have bedded down. Hit by the full force of the Government's adjustment programmes at the very moment when the world economy was descending into slump, British industry could not speak with a single voice. Erratic CBI leadership was unable to bridge the gap and a rift opened up with government that, despite an outbreak of election solidarity, was still embarrassingly apparent at last year's conference in Glasgow.

Events have helped to heal that rift. On the CBI's side, its member firms have had to make all those harsh adjustments. They are now recognising and reaping the benefits in an easier economic climate of prolonged recovery, although many firms in the West Midlands and elsewhere are still in desperate straits and the construction industry is starved of public sector orders. On the Government side Mr Nigel Lawson has, despite the rhetoric, subtly shifted the Government's priorities in favour of sustaining recovery through the lowest practical interest rates, if necessary at the expense of the pound (music to some CBI ears) and at the expense of improving on the pace of its targeted cuts in inflation. The public sector has so far, unusually, shown private industry the way in curbing the growth of money wages. And the Government has finally met industry's united demand for an end to the National Insurance Surcharge.

The rapprochement is therefore genuine. It will never become a true meeting of minds. The CBI's latest calls to the Chancellor, while containing much good advice, still betray the self-delusion of a disparate committee; Mrs Thatcher will never be able to think of her largely staunch industrial ally as "one of us".

It is therefore sad that the Prime Minister's question-and-answer session with delegates, billed for tomorrow as the highlight of the CBI conference, has had to be cancelled in favour of grimmer business in New Delhi. It was supposed to mark a symbolic healing of the rift, despite some anticipated tart questioning about unemployment and public sector capital spending.

Perhaps Mrs Thatcher's absence will accidentally allow the CBI to focus more closely on what should now be the function of this conference: to develop its own role within its membership in projecting the half-achieved reform of British industry into a full-scale resurgence based on improved competitiveness, improved techniques and a more expansionary frame of mind; projecting the practice of the best practical interest rates, if necessary at the expense of the pound (music to some CBI ears) and at the expense of improving on the pace of its targeted cuts in inflation. The public sector has so far, unusually, shown private industry the way in curbing the growth of money wages. And the Government has finally met industry's united demand for an end to the National Insurance Surcharge.

ELECTIONS IN A MINEFIELD

There is much to observe in Nicaragua, whether we are officially observing it or not: Nicaragua's circumstances and future are a minefield for observers, obscured by smoke from a variety of sources. Reputations can hardly be seen to be at stake in tomorrow's elections. The United States has denounced them as a sham, and the most significant elements in the opposition have decided to abstain.

Opposition parties abstain when they consider that a government's possession of superior resources and its disposition to use them offer no fair chance, and that withdrawal will rob the victory of meaning and legitimacy. The Sandinistas certainly have the machinery: they have the army and the militia, the local committee structure, most of the press, radio and television, the censor, the rationing system, the youth organisations, the police and advisers from countries where governments never lose. They have lowered the voting age to 16. They are confident of gaining an overwhelming majority, despite their increasing unpopularity, against a divided, inexperienced and less privileged opposition. They are less confident about how much good this will do them if most of that opposition does not take part, or about where that will leave the country. They have made unsuccessful efforts to induce the abstainers to take part. The United States has encouraged them not to.

Abstention is not such an easy

decision, as is shown by the arguments and hesitations within the two principal opposition elements, the *Co-ordinadora Democrática* and the *Partido Liberal Independiente*: you sacrifice having a voice for making a stand; you give your opponents in the short term an even freer hand. There is not much pluralism in Nicaragua and abstaining can mean that there will be even less. But Nicaraguan conditions do not make for fair elections (elections are much more than mere voting, which is what observers usually observe). As the comparison will inevitably be made, there appears to be less opportunity for genuine political competition in Nicaragua than there is in El Salvador.

This is by no means just the result of a siege mentality, though it may be intensified by being under continuous pressure and attack. Similarly, the country's present economic ills are not all due to the United States boycott and the ravages of the *contras*: many of them are brought about by the economic models the *comandantes* have adopted. Peasants refuse to produce for controlled markets, shortages breed corruption. Discontent is met by increased controls, formal and informal, which the Sandinistas show little reluctance in inventing and applying. There is little sign of any independent labour movement and much of the church is now in opposition. Sandinista support has eroded but the government's grip has increased.

DREDGING AT DEDHAM

The sound of water escaping from milk-dams, willows, old rotten planks, slimy posts, and brickwork. I love such things... I associate 'my careless boyhood' with all that lies on the banks of the Stour; those scenes made me a painter, and I am grateful. John Constable writing to his friend Archdeacon Fisher.

That supplies one reason for keeping dredging machinery out of the river Stour in Dedham Vale downstream from Stratford St Mary. This is hallowed ground. It was his feeling for it that first raised Constable to become the master of English landscape painting. The sweep of the vale, the sky which is "the source of light and governs everything", were integral to the scene; but it is the micro-landscape of the river banks that Constable dwells on in that passage. It calls out to be undisturbed so far as continuing life and erosion by time allow.

A second reason for not proceeding with the scheme of the Anglian Water Authority to deepen and widen that stretch of the river is that the flood control it is intended to achieve might permit the riparian farmers to follow the line of profit and convert the permanent pastures bordering the river to barley or the dreaded oil-seed rape. That Constable liked a splash of colour in his landscapes and might have made something of the cadmium yellow of that alien crop is beside the point. Con-

stable Country is as it is, not as it might have been.

The intermittent flooding of those pastures has been made worse by developments upstream which have added to the volume of water in the river. A scheme that has been on the stocks for twenty years or so has been dusted off and modified and is now somewhere in the town and country planning labyrinth.

The engineers have gone far to forestall aesthetic objections. Their plans entail no changes of water level, no straightening out of meandering, no interference with the ford at Flatford where the alternative of a contained flood-plain is proposed, few mature trees down, and saplings to be planted at the rate of three for every loss. Even reeds and weeds dug out in one place will be recolonised in another place along the stream.

The joint planning authorities too are very conscious of where they tread and are at their most tactful. An agreement with the farmers is poised in readiness whereby there would be no change of use from pasture for ten years, and notification for the next ten years to allow for management agreements inhibiting change in return for compensation (and by then, who knows, there may be agricultural planning controls in place for areas, like this, of "outstanding natural beauty"). The planners have even remembered to reserve

approval of the mixture of grasses chosen for receding where the spoil will have been put out.

It is a scheme that embodies well the new emphasis on conservation and protection of landscape. It also shows the farming and conservation interests joined in mutual comprehension. It is a scheme one would like to be able to commend. Besides, it does not do to be too pedantic about Constable Country. He took liberties with it himself: making the vale appear steeper than it is; widening the stream for The Hay Wain; positioning the tower of Dedham church with artistic licence; moving the mill-wheel at Dedham for effect.

And yet, there will be disturbance if the scheme goes ahead. The river banks will be raw and bruised for several years. Not all the good intentions might work out that way. Tillage of the willow-bordered pastures is made an option eventually, and public money is committed to an indefinite extent for the payment of compensation for not doing what ought not to be done. And what is it all in aid of? To extend the grazing season on 650 acres of permanent pasture, meant to be kept as it is. It is barely worth while even in narrow terms of agricultural output. In the sublime context in which the 650 acres sit, it is not worth while at all.

The business climate may not be ideal. It is better than for many years and as good a springboard as industrialists could reasonably hope for. It is time to get on with the job.

President Reagan's administration declares that democratisation is one of its four demands for "accommodation" with the Nicaraguan government, the other three being that Nicaragua should reduce its armed forces, and any assistance to subverting its neighbours and send home foreign military elements. The argument is that without democratisation there can be no guarantee that Nicaragua will follow a peaceful foreign policy freed from ideological determinants. These elections by themselves will not suffice to end US support for the *contras*. If they result in a more hard-line Sandinista government then fighting may continue with even less chance of a peaceful solution than there is now. It is not clear how or when this will produce what the United States essentially desires, a reliably neutral Nicaragua.

Tomorrow's elections are still worth some unofficial watching. There is still a little breathing space in the system, the government has attempted to recover from its failure to get much opposition participation by calling for a "dialogue" with all elements except the *contras*, and it has attempted its defiance of the United States with professions of its desire for an agreement and a cease-fire. "Dialogue" is a nebulous concept, but it is powerfully fashionable in central America and elsewhere in Latin America. Practical statesmen have to consider whether the alternatives, which are less nebulous, are any more feasible.

Putting people in employment

From the Leader of the Social Democratic Party

Sir, Your editorial, "Forming the pace on jobs" (November 2), is yet another depressing contribution which offers not a single specific measure to reduce unemployment.

You criticise me for having "rashly entered the numbers game", but how much more would you have criticised the proposals I put forward, first in Wales on October 14 and then again in the House of Commons on October 30, for budgetary reflation combined with firm monetary policy if I had not provided detailed figures with an estimate of the net employment effect and the consequences for the FRS?

The modest and carefully costed measures I suggested would reduce unemployment by building mainly on existing industry and employment schemes managed by Government departments. You state that "those demanding reflation pure and simple would be better employed finding common ground with the Chancellor on wages."

This overlooks the fact that an important part of what I proposed involves a general restructuring of employment. National Insurance contributions to reduce labour costs and enhance the employment prospects of less skilled and lower paid workers.

You are right to declare that the Government has plenty of work to do, but it is very disappointing that you do not discuss more carefully these measures I suggested which the Government could be persuaded to implement.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID OWEN,
House of Commons,
November 2.

Racism and police

From Dr P. A. J. Waddington

Sir, The Labour spokesman, Clare Short, is entitled to her view that racial discrimination should be a disciplinary offence within the police. What she is not entitled to do is to bolster her case by misrepresenting research findings.

True, the Policy Studies Institute report, *Police and People in London*, did find that the use of offensive racialist language was common amongst Metropolitan Police officers. However, as the authors of that report were at pains to point out, they also found that these verbal habits were translated into discriminatory conduct only rarely. In this respect the report echoed academic research on the police published for the past twenty years.

Mr Short, and other critics of the police, may find it difficult to imagine that racist sentiments do not spill over from language into action. However, there is nothing uniquely anglic about the police in this regard, for it is a common human trait for people to do one thing in one context and quite another in a different situation. Yours faithfully,
P. A. J. WADDINGTON,
University of Reading,
Department of Sociology,
Whiteknights,
Reading,
Berkshire,
October 30.

Maiden Castle dig

From Mr F. H. Thompson

Sir, An unwelcome asperity seems to be creeping into the pronouncements of the heads of English Heritage (Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England). The reply by the Chief Executive, Mr Rumble (October 19), based on imagined information supplied by his archaeological staff, to Mr Taton-Brown's perfectly reasonable criticisms of the Commission's decision to institute fresh excavations at Maiden Castle (October 13) could have been more sympathetically phrased.

As it is, it gave the unfortunate impression that English Heritage shirks its own best and in its understandable desire to catch the public eye has decided to act without general consultation. The archaeological profession is populated, even over-populated, by articulate and intelligent men and women who will only accept that Maiden Castle is a good choice for further excavation after a thorough public debate on the merits of the proposal.

The parallel is the current operation at the Sutton Hoo burial ground being undertaken jointly by the Society of Antiquaries and the British Museum, but only set in motion after prolonged and careful discussion within the profession. Yours faithfully,
F. H. THOMPSON,
The Tile House,
Blacksmith Lane,
Chilworth,
Kilford, Surrey,
October 20.

Famine in Ethiopia

From Mr Basil Davidson

Sir, Those who have watched at close hand the deepening dramas of the Horn of Africa over past years will salubriate the wisdom of your correspondent, notably Dr Griffin and Mr Hamilton (October 30), who have emphasised the influence of long-term political factors. Effective aid can now mitigate the worst sufferings of this drought, and deserving every possible and urgent support. But emergency aid can be no more than a palliative.

It will be useful, if painful, to recall that the present catastrophe is a larger and more terrible repetition of almost comparable Ethiopian disasters of ten years back and, like them, has political as well as climatic or ecological roots. Without seeking to apportion blame, a search which could only hamper the transfer of emergency aid, we should consider how far international policies and attitudes can be influenced and reshaped, in relation

Proper purpose of religious studies

From the Director of the Farmington Institute for Christian Studies

Sir, Of the many excellent points you make in your leading article "RE, RI or RKC?" (October 31) may I highlight four on behalf of the Farmington Institute?

1. Such public acknowledgment of the real, as opposed to the theoretical, status of religious education in schools is timely. What is astonishing and needs to be publicized is the way in which deep and rigorous re-thinking has gone on within the subject, and some excellent practice achieved, in the face of the cavalier treatment the subject has received as regards time allocation, resources, training of teachers, status as regards promotion and so forth. In some schools, indeed, the subject has been virtually lost in amalgamations of one kind or another, many of them made for administrative convenience.

2. Yet the educational case for including religious education in the school timetable is overwhelming. It deals, as you note, "with one of the most important areas of human motivation and experience". Besides, this, as the recent grave events in India have underlined, religion misused is dangerously explosive.

The need to combat prejudice, to develop understanding, and to open up the possibility of a genuine spirituality which people can freely enter into, would seem to be urgent, not only for the welfare of individuals in this world of change but for the survival of civilized society as we know it.

3. Any form of indoctrination or pressurizing to join a group is inappropriate in schools, which pupils are obliged to attend. The distinction to which you draw attention between instruction and knowledge is crucial.

It is not for schools to say what people should believe; it is, however, for schools to fulfil their educational role of introducing children properly and fairly to the options. They are failing both children and society if they neglect this responsibility.

4. Your comments on the school assembly and its connection with worship are most apposite. May I share with readers who may feel unhappy about the inclusion of such opportunities for worship in

assemblies attended by all pupils, the following educational point.

The aim of such assemblies should be to help pupils gain understanding of religion, for which, as in many areas of life, some measure of participation is called for. Such participation is educational and does not imply commitment; it is, rather, the necessary rational pre-condition for either the rejection or acceptance of religious belief.

Yours faithfully,
BRENDA G. WATSON, Director,
Farmington Institute for
Christian Studies,
4 Park Town,
Oxford,
November 1.

From Mr Nicolas Walter

Sir, Your leading article on religious education (October 31) represents an advance, but not a sufficient one. To summarize a long argument: this subject will become genuinely educational only when it ceases to be imposed by statute law and local bureaucracy and is put into the hands of the teaching profession; when it ceases to be a vehicle for any form of indoctrination or induction into any particular forms of belief and behaviour; when ethics and aesthetics are considered without supernatural inspiration; and when it is treated on the same basis as all other controversial subjects.

The problem is that the current anxiety about religious education has been caused by the recent appearance in our schools of large numbers of children from non-Christian families, although no one seemed to care about the previous existence of much larger numbers of children from non-religious families.

In the past such children have been faced with the unpleasant choice of either being withdrawn from religious worship and religious instruction or being subjected to offensive propaganda. It is high time to make sure that all serious views of the world's religious and non-religious, political and non-political, become the subject of genuine education for all the children in our schools.

NICOLAS WALTER,
Rationalist Press Association,
88 Islington High Street, N1.

Commemorating arms

From Mr Ian McKitterick

Sir, Professor Howard writes (October 30) as if war was a natural disaster like plague and its causation beyond the responsibility of man.

The facts are that the great mass of the German people backed Hitler and glorified in his conquests; that the Russians in signing the Nazi-Soviet Pact made war inevitable, so that when we were at our weakest Russia and Germany were our enemies.

When Russia was attacked by its former ally I must say that, in common with countless others, I never felt that she was fighting for us or for any altruistic motive whatsoever.

She was fighting to save her own skin, first and foremost; later and secondly she strove in pursuit of conquests of her own. Nothing in her conduct after the war or since has served to alter that opinion.

If the cessation of hostilities must be celebrated, let it be celebrated quietly by giving thanks for the victory and by remembering those who died through German - and Russian - action. By all means let us forgive our enemies, but do not let us forget that they were our enemies.

Yours faithfully,
IAN MCKITTERICK,
58 Magdalen Road,
Exeter, Devon,
October 30.

From Mr Simon Garrett

Sir, Professor Michael Howard (October 30) rightly hopes that the Soviet Union will be invited to next year's fortieth anniversary of victory in the Second World War. But why

Wider selection

From Mr H. H. L. Smith

Sir, Your report by the City Editor on the front page, the edition of October 24 to the effect that one of the large multiples is not to neglect clothes for the mature age is welcome, provided it also includes the larger sizes of dress number identification which sadly it neglects at the moment.

I had not realised prior to my retirement the ordeal my wife faces in buying ready-made clothes in this country. She is a 20/22 as there appears to be no consistency in classification of sizes. Her treatment in most of the multiples seems on a par to that claimed by the anti-racist and anti-sexist lobbies. She has frequently been treated as some leprous freak by assistants and often directed to a dingy hidden corner of

does he deplore their absence from last summer's Normandy landing celebrations?

The Russian war effort undoubtedly contributed to this victory, just as the Anglo-American war effort (and material aid) contributed to, say, the Russian victory at Kursk in 1943.

But Kursk was operationally an exclusively Russian affair, so the Western Allies could not expect to be equally honoured for it 40 years on. By the same token, the Russians could not expect an invitation to Normandy.

The anniversary of the general victory, created by all the Allied Powers, is a different matter. All must be honoured in 1985.

Yours faithfully,
SIMON GARRETT,
Bathwick House,
Bath, Avon,
October 31.

All lit up

From Mr David Hicks

Sir, Your article of October 29 about our coal stocks mentions the possibility of rationing electricity for street lighting.

As anyone flying into London Airport in the early hours of the morning can see, millions of street lights are blazing away and have been on all night. Could not a decision be taken to turn them off at midnight, by which time old ladies are surely in bed?

Yours sincerely,
DAVID HICKS,
David Hicks International,
101 Jermyn Street, SW1,
October 30.

a shop floor where a few items of poor style, design and quality of material are displayed.

No wonder my wife enjoys buying clothes in New York, where she is treated courteously and has the widest selection of choice. Specialist outsize shops in this country appear to levy a very heavy premium for the service they provide.

For a healthy woman from an ancestry of large forebears with a record of longevity I now appreciate why purchasing clothes is such a depressing experience for her. Perhaps a change of attitude is on the horizon.

Yours faithfully,
H. H. L. SMITH,
Timbers,
Moat Lane,
Farnham,
Surrey,
Kent.

aid continues to be offered and transferred in the largest possible degree, here will now be a powerful case for initiatives, perhaps launched by Britain on the basis of past responsibilities and involvements, that could work towards a "hands off" commitment by the "outside world".

If the region could be removed from the influence of external ambitions - or, at least, if the divisive force of such ambitions could be steadily reduced - the settlement of apparently intractable conflicts would be far less difficult than it is now.

Such initiatives will be hard to create and harder still to carry through. But the millions now facing death by famine need nothing less. They desperately want for food. No less desperately, they want for peace.

Yours sincerely,
BASIL DAVIDSON,
Old Cider Mill,
North Wootton,
Somerset,
October 30.

Feeling on India's lost leader

From Mr B. A. Baldry

Sir, One's deep-rooted resistance to the notion of a multi-racial society - which is widely shared though never to be mentioned - is often reinforced by the apparent unwillingness of immigrant communities to make cultural and emotional concessions in the cause of integration. But while we may perhaps learn to forgive support for the wrong side in Test matches, how shall we overcome our revulsion at the spectacle of public jubilation over the killing of Indira Gandhi?

Yours faithfully,
B. A. BALDRY,
Chart Cottage,
Hambleton,
Surrey,
November 1.

From Mr Mohinder Singh Dang

Sir, June 5, 1984, was indeed a very sad day for all the Sikhs throughout the world. Indian Government ordered her troops to enter the holiest of our shrines, the Golden Temple, on that day.

But let there be no misunderstanding that we, the Sikhs, consider today, October 31, 1984, even a sadder day for all and for our country, India, when some fanatic idiot very ruthlessly killed Mrs Indira Gandhi.

Those very few Sikhs who shamelessly rejoiced at her assassination are decidedly a tiny fraction of the Sikh community and certainly do not represent the vast majority of Sikhs who join the rest of their countrymen around the world to mourn this tragic and untimely death of one of the greatest leaders of the world and, without doubt, the best India ever had.

I pray to the Almighty for eternal peace to the departed soul and for calmness and wisdom to those left behind.

Yours sincerely,
MOHINDER SINGH DANG,
Department of Ophthalmology,
Memorial Hospital,
Hollyburn Road,
Dartford,
co Durham,
October 31.

The other MCC

From Mr T. J. Threlfall

Sir, Your Mr Blunsden's mention (October 10) of the Monte Carlo Rally as being "the oldest road motor sport event, dating back to 1911" is not entirely accurate. The Motor Cycling Club was founded in 1901 for members with motorcycles, as its name would indicate; like Mr Toad it soon spotted the sporting possibilities of the motor car and admitted them in 1907.

The MCC (with no cricketing connections) ran the first London to Edinburgh trial in 1908, in 1909 it ran the first London to Land's End (and back) trial, when 15 hours were allowed for the journey in each direction. In 1910 the club ran the first London to Exeter trial, to demonstrate that motoring was also possible in the winter.

The MCC continues to run these three road motor sport events; this year's Land's End trial, for instance, was the sixty-third and it attracted 350 starters - the maximum permitted by the RAC.

It would be a pity if what seems to have been a never best by the Montagues to persuade your Correspondent to re-write history in their favour were to be allowed to succeed.

Yours faithfully,
TOM THRELFALL,
Hollowforth,
Shawford,
Winchester,
Hampshire,
October 11.

In the name of charity

From Mr M. R. Nathan

Sir, Your article (October 19) raised several interesting points. The application of the cy-près doctrine to modern times was exhaustively examined by the Nathan Committee not so long ago and although its recommendations were accepted by the then Government, little action was taken.

The Charity Commission requires extensive reorganisation and the requirement for charities to file accounts is more honoured in the breach than the observance, as the figures given by you underline. One way to overcome this and to make the charity funds more meaningfully applied would be for charities whose terms are entirely local to file accounts locally rather than centrally.

Yours faithfully,
M. R. NATHAN,
2 Rosscourt Mansions,
Palace Street, SW1,
October 21.

Glittering prizes

From Mr P. K. Mansell

Sir, Can it be coincidental that the pound reaches a record low on the day (October 19) that the Booker Prize for fiction commands page one and Professor Stone's Nobel Prize for Economics is assigned to page 17?

Yours faithfully,
P. K. MANSELL,
As from PO Box 11-1369,
Bangkok 10110,
Thailand,
October 22.

Hic jacet...

From Mr R. H. Wright

Sir, Even in tropical heat there need be no lack of decorum. A catering rest house in Nigeria had a notice: "Visitors are asked to dress for dinner, e.g. shirt."

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT WRIGHT,
51 Mill Street,
Warwick,
October 31.

12, 13
Travel: Calm charm in the Caribbean; bargain flights to Europe; guide to Britain's best hotels; and Christmas breaks

14, 15
Values on lights fantastic; In the Garden: The fight against fungus; Eating Out: Wine bars with a difference; Drink

THE TIMES Saturday

16, 17
Family Life: Children and television; Chess; Bridge; Crossword; Review: Rock and jazz records; Galleries

19, 20
The Week: Critics' guide to Television, Music, Opera, Dance, Firework displays, Films, Radio, Auctions and Theatre

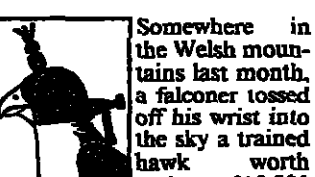
3-9 NOVEMBER 1984 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

Lunch with a killer

Stephen Ford and friend: Picture by Jonathan Player



For centuries falconry has cast a powerful spell over those who have sought to tame one of nature's wildest spirits. But now it is no longer a pastime for a few fanatics. As its popularity grows, so does controversy and even crime. Conservationists are highly suspicious, while the falcons themselves are prime targets for smugglers. George Hill casts a beady eye over Britain's most arcane blood sport



Somewhere in the Welsh mountains last month, a falconer tossed off his wrist into the sky a trained hawk worth perhaps £10,000 on the black market. Then he walked away and left it to fend for itself. Its release, by Dr Nick Fox, was not a heartless experiment, but the culmination of a two-year programme to rehabilitate a victim of smuggling.

The bird, a rare peregrine falcon stolen from the wild, had been found in 1982 as a chick hidden in the wing of an aircraft arriving in Munich from Britain. The species is virtually extinct in Germany, and some collectors and falconers are said to go to any lengths to obtain one. Smuggling birds of prey has become a highly lucrative business, a serious threat to conservation. Last month the police raided a farm in Staffordshire and seized unlicensed foreign species with an estimated black market value of £100,000. In the United States a series of court cases is uncovering evidence of an extensive worldwide smuggling ring allegedly involving members of the Saudi royal family.

When the stolen bird was returned from Germany, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds passed it to Dr Fox to train it to live in the wild - for hawks need to learn the arts of survival, from men if not from birds. This was a rare display of co-operation between conservationists and falconers, divided on whether the ancient art of falconry, now enjoying a revival, is a threat or a safeguard to our birds of prey.

It is the most arcane of our blood sports, and the least satisfying to those with a taste for a bagful of mangled corpses, as I found this week, tramping round the small hills near Newent with Philip Jones and his immaculate Harris hawk, George.

Our hunt was not unlike a stroll with a companionable, rather hungry and inconceivably mobile dog. George kept pace with us at a distance, trusting Philip to lead him towards the best spots for game. He was often out of our sight,

though I doubt whether we were ever out of his, and now and then he would return to the wrist with a jingling of bells, to show he had not forgotten us. He cast his piercing eye incessantly round the skirts of the woods for a live meal.

He made half-serious passes at a blackbird and a magpie which were being rather offensive, and struck down one small rabbit which never knew what hit it. But a whole week blazing away at hand-reared pheasants could not possibly have been as exciting.

I had first experienced the spell of birds of prey not long before, at the school of falconry run by Emma and Stephen Ford near Canterbury, when a buzzard called Freya decided in mid-flight towards me that she did not like my face.

Veering off her flight path like a hijacked airliner, Freya landed noisily in the upper branches of a tree and settled down for a sulk. She looked round at the dank English countryside and seemed to reflect that the world had changed for the worse since her ancestors were predatory dinosaurs in the primeval sunshine. There was no kite-string to haul her down with and the tree was far too tall and flimsy to climb. If she took it into her head to soar away for a circle or two, the wind might take her halfway across the county. She was free. There was nothing to draw her back to us but her own decision, and she glared out into the distance as if we were the worst kind of dirt.

"Whistle," said Emma, and I whistled as piercingly as I could, holding up my gauntleted left hand with a tender titter, the head of a day-old chick. Freya looked down with eyes sharp enough to count the pores on my cheek. Then she lurched forward, spread her dark wings, and came at me low down over the turf like a flying hearthrug.

This is the point at which beginners at the Ford's falconry school sometimes throw away the bait and run for cover. I stood my ground, and the bird reared up, turning her wings to brakes, and lowered her talons onto my wrist. She seized the raw chicken-head and gulped it down; its beak squeezed open like a snapdragon in dumb protest as it disappeared.

Surreptitiously, I gathered the jesses trailing from Freya's ankles. Every worthwhile sport has one central piece of magic: in the case of falconry, it is the force which brings a bird down out of the sky, back to the hand. It is a cold force, for a hawk is never tame in the way a pet is tame, never affectionate, or loyal, or eager for a caress.

I am a budgeter-gar man myself. I like to have small birds, different only in gaudiness from the cheeky ones that live out in the shrubberies, fluttering indoors to my hand for a taste of millet. One of my recurrent nightmares is that I have left a window open and the silly things go blundering irretrievably out. I thought a course in falconry might help to purge the dream, through exposure to weatherproof outdoor birds. If nothing else, I

How to handle a proud predator

A strong stomach and fine needlework are virtues in a falconer. Hawks are apt to kill, and constant vigilance is needed to see that they do not develop bumblefoot, snits, snurt, lethargy, nits, croaks and kecks, aspergillosis or frounce (the latter is invariably fatal). The trained eye can learn volumes from close study of the bird's daily regurgitations and their unforgoably pungent droppings.

Handling such fierce and fragile creatures calls for constant care. An array of cords, swivels and leather straps is needed to tether and transport them; there is a special knot to learn, which can be tied with one's single free hand, and in principle untied too, if necessary with the help of the teeth. Much expense is saved by cutting and stitching the leather gear oneself from tanners' offcuts. Mottled feathers have to be carefully saved in case of breakages: they can be grafted onto the stump of the broken feather in an exceedingly fiddly eyeball-to-eyeball process known as imping. The other essential piece of equipment for today's falconer is a deep-freeze filled with board-like rabbits and pigeons. First the young bird has to be gradually taught to take food from you, then to hop to your hand for it. Then short flights can be made, with the bird tethered to a 100yd line, called the creance. When it is flying free, it can be trained either

might pick up a few hints about the recovery of lost budgies.

With budgies and buzzards alike, most things come down to cupboard love. The secret of falconry is to keep a bird slightly peckish when you mean to fly it.

I had been rather surprised to find I could take a course at all. In the past, there were only two ways to become a falconer. The principal one was to be born into it, the alternative was to try and learn it from books, mostly facsimile reprints of manuals current in the time of James I.

Today it is again possible, after perhaps a century, for a limited number of people to shake a living out of the sport. Falconry almost died out in Britain in the 1700s when the gunsmith's art improved to the point where it became worthwhile to shoot game on the wing. Only a few obsessed

for displays or for hunting (the historic art of falconry) by flying the lure - a dummy bird on a string, whirled round the head like a lasso. (This often ended up coiled tightly round the beginner.) Then at last you can go out to hunt the ecological consequences are seldom significant, as by far the most common victims are rabbits and squirrels.

Week-long courses for beginners are run by Emma and Stephen Ford at the British School of Falconry, Stelling Minnis, Canterbury, Kent (022 787 575). They will be held between February and July this season, and cost £100 living out and £150 living in. Beginners train with adult buzzards, and advanced pupils mainly with Harris Hawks. The centre is not open to the public otherwise.

The Bird of Prey Conservation and Falconry Centre, Newent, Gloucestershire (0581 820286) is not offering courses this year because of involvement in a conservation project in Zimbabwe. They hope to resume next season, from October to March, with two-week courses in which pupils start with young buzzards and learn to train them. The centre is also open to the public from February to November inclusive.

The British Falconry Club, Moorhatters, Allington, Salisbury, Wiltshire (0980 611903). The Hawk Conservancy is in Weyhill, Andover, Hampshire (026 477 2252).

individuals kept the art alive. In this century there has been a revival of interest, which has gathered in recent years, in line with the increasing concern about wildlife.

The British Falconers' Club now has more than five times as many members as in the 1950s, and the numbers are rising fast. There are 2,500 registered keepers of birds of prey, with some 10,000 birds.

"Our main function is education," says Fred Smith, director of the Hawk Conservancy in Andover. "We have 100 or more visitors a day when we are open to the public in the summer."

There is also a limited but lucrative demand for trained birds to appear on films or television (the larger contract is a particular plum), some air bases employ hawks to chase away potentially hazardous flocks of birds and for a few, there may be even greater rewards overseas. The sport is still keenly pursued by the kings and sheikhs of the Gulf, who are ready to pay well for western skills, and for fine birds.

There are also less legitimate profits to be made from British wild hawks. It is hard to guess at the extent of smuggling: the Munich airport case is one of very few actually to reach the courts.

In Britain, only about 20 or 30 cases of robbery from the nests of protected birds of prey come to court each year. But the RSPB claims that as many as one peregrine nest in ten is robbed; even though the maximum fine has been raised to £1,000. The society keeps files on more than 100 suspects.

Who is to blame - falconers, egg collectors or smugglers? Peter Robinson of the RSPB believes that falconers and egg collectors may be equally responsible. But falconers reply that for most domestic species the supply of captive-bred birds is now so healthy that there is little incentive to take birds from the wild. They insist that they are also conservationists, who have played a major role saving birds which are threatened with extinction all round the world. (Nick Fox, is now in Mauritius attempting to help save the Mauritius falcon.) Largely at the insistence of falconers, immense advances have been made in breeding and veterinary skills.

New laws brought in two years ago introduced close regulation of the breeding and exchange of birds, with greatly increased penalties. "We are probably the most heavily-legislated sport in the country," Jim Chick, director of the British Falconers' Club, says. "The Department of the Environment have right of entry to inspect my breeding stock at any reasonable time, and in the breeding season they come four or five times to see which birds are mating and record the number of eggs. It's simply impossible to take birds from the wild and feed them into the registration system illicitly."

But conservationists remain suspicious. "Changes in the law have reduced the problem of poaching from the wild, but the system can never be made foolproof," Peter Robinson says. "Some of our members

would probably welcome a ban on the keeping of all kinds of birds of prey in captivity. There would be moral and legal problems about a complete ban, and the society wouldn't welcome it at this stage. But if we don't get our act together soon, we've got to consider it as a possibility."

Some of the heat has been taken out of the controversy recently as it has become clear that most domestic wild hawks are not in immediate danger of extinction.

Falconers insist that there is something special, almost mystical, about the partnership they have with their birds. "It's a totally natural sport. We do nothing with our birds that they wouldn't do in the wild, and we deal with them on a one-to-one basis," Jim Chick says.

But the number of people who want to keep birds goes on growing. It is possible to buy a kestrel or buzzard for £60 or less, and get all the necessary kit for a couple of hundred pounds more - modest expense compared to many of today's leisure pursuits. Hard cash is not everything, however: the main cost is time, and the most essential equipment is knowledge. Many people lack both.

Never say "Kest" to a falconer. "The film has done more harm to falconry than anything else," says Mrs Jenima Parry-Jones, of the Newent Bird of Prey Centre. "And the television people insist on repeating it just at the breeding season and encouraging small boys to go out and rob kestrels' nests."

The film, and the book it is based on, have had an immense influence. A small manifesto of disaffected boyhood, the story is urban, contemporary, astringent and captivating; it has immeasurably broadened the sport's appeal. "We've had brain-surgeons and bricklayers here - it's quite classless," says Mrs Parry-Jones. And she is right: two of my three fellow-pupils on the Ford's beginners' course were unemployed lads from the Midlands.

Not all of the new breed of enthusiasts are so keen to learn, which is why a few falconers have decided to offer formal instruction. Mrs Parry-Jones has been running two-week courses at Newent for 17 years and has had more than 600 pupils; they start with untrained birds and bring them through a basic training. The Fords began two years ago, taking beginners for week-long courses as well as offering instruction to more experienced falconers.

All responsible teachers stress that falconry is messy, bloodthirsty, difficult and uncomfortable. "Only 20 per cent of my pupils take it up afterwards, and that's fine," Mrs Parry-Jones says. "We don't encourage fair weather falconry."

And so it was that I had the chance to find myself standing in the middle of a field in Kent, chilled to the bone in three pairs of socks and two pairs of trousers, waving fragments of a disembowelled chicken in the air, and whistling like a commissionaire.

Freya spent much of the afternoon huring herself around swearing in 20 languages and flashing her starchy pinions across my arms and cheeks. Next day she was a perfect lady, as far as a creature designed for slaughter ever can be. She flew impeccably to the hand of one of the Midlands boys, while I fumbled my way through the daily weighing and exercise with another long-suffering buzzard called Bloggins, who glared scornfully at my clumsy fingers and finally took a remonstrative slash at them.

Buzzards are ideal birds for beginners, and these were accustomed to strangers, but none of us got through the week without minor bloodshed. I apologized to Freya and Bloggins for my lack of tact, and went home to the budgies.

Learning the rules of the falconer's game



Falconry terminology is irredeemably perverse. Like rhyming slang, it is in origin a trick to keep outsiders out. All hawks are by tradition called "she", regardless of sex, just like ships and windmills, and for the same reason: most falconers were men, and the relationship was intimate and engrossing.

It is vital to bear in mind that all hawking is falconry, but not all falconry is hawking; however, all falcons are hawks, but not all hawks are falcons. One who flies hawks is strictly not a hawk but an ostringer: a hawk is employed in relation to jellied eels rather than birds of prey. The word "cast" has five special meanings.

Strictly speaking, hawks, falcons and buzzards are all different. This is how you can tell them apart.

● **Falcons:** Long-winged, fast-flying, short-tailed. Chiefly rock-dwellers which hunt birds on the wing. Upright stance, often hooded to keep them calm before hunting. Quick learners and thrilling fliers. The kestrel is the most common, but too small to take game larger than a

sparrow. The peregrine is the aristocrat of falconry, spectacular and temperamental; able to take pigeons, grouse, partridge and rooks.

● **Hawks:** Short-winged, long-tailed, chiefly nesting in trees and hunting in short sprints in woodland, taking prey on the ground or near it. Sparrowhawk take finches, sparrows, thrushes; larger goshawk (still rare in wild) go for squirrels, rabbits and possibly game-birds. Both are nervous and prone to fits. The Harris hawk is an equable imported species combining the virtues of long-wing and short-wing.

● **Buzzards:** Buzzards and eagles. Slow-flying birds found in hilly or mountainous country, with rounded tails and wings. Buzzards are the best beginner's bird, tough and trainable, though their lack of aggressive spirit makes them lazy hunters. Eagles are majestic and moody: they hunt rabbit, game-birds, even fox.

Next week: The shooting birds of Britain

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Peaks and plains on a line of strange fascination

There are very few train journeys in Europe for which it is worth making a special detour, but the spectacular line from Belgrade to Bar, on the Adriatic coast, must be one of them. Completed only nine years ago, 150 years after it was first thought of, it also has the distinction of being almost certainly the last new line that will ever be built in Europe.

We boarded after lunch in Belgrade and set off at first along old track, trundling through lush fields and old villages until gradually the hills began to rise around us. The first landmark was Tivovo Uzdice, centre of partisan resistance to the German-Italian occupation in the Second World War. Then the hills turned gradually into mountains as the train branched off, hurrying along high ledges and diving in and out of tunnels, so that sometimes the vista registered like a quick snapshot before we entered the next tunnel.

Altogether there are 71 miles of tunnel along its 296 miles and 234 bridges, so it is not surprising that construction was painfully slow and expensive. But the project was, and still is, thought economically worthwhile because it links the better-off interior of Yugoslavia to the relatively poor coastal areas and the port of Bar.

The railway's highest point is more than 3,200ft and the



surrounding mountains are more than 6,500ft. There was still snow on the ground at the end of May as we skirted an area of national park. Then the descent began along more precipitous edges with the road winding along a canyon far below, the odd crashed car just visible, and the train suddenly sailing over dizzy bridges and through more tunnels. As dusk fell the train lost altitude, curving around the mountain like a plane coming in to land. We could see sparks flying from the straining brakes like fireworks along its whole length. It was nearly dark when we reached sea level and coasted along the edge of Lake Skadar trying to make out the mountains of Albania on the other side.

There are several trains a day, and some are reputed to have a better buffet service than ours, but it is still advisable to take a picnic. First class travel is also worthwhile as the trains tend to be full - ours certainly was. As a way of getting down to the Montenegrin coast it is a good deal more fun than the aeroplane.

Once there, we stayed at Sveti Stefan, the remarkable hotel that features in so many Yugoslav travel posters. A tiny fishing village has been entirely converted into an hotel. The cottages have become rooms or suites reached via steps and alleys amid flowering shrubs. The restaurant, terrace and swimming pool have been cleverly blended into the old stonework.

It is generally regarded as a fairly tranquil, high-class place with bed and breakfast up to £70 a night in the high season. Our visit coincided with that of a large German group but the manager said this was exceptional. The food and service were excellent (except for the impossibility of obtaining brown bread), the scenery lovely, the nearby beaches good and the water cool but swimmable in May.

Unfortunately the beautiful old town of Budva, just across the bay, is still closed for repairs to earthquake damage but will presumably open again soon. There are lots of other excursions, notably up to the old Montenegrin capital of Cetinje, where the royal palace is preserved as a museum and the old British legation survives. There are ambitious plans to bring alive the rich history of this rugged and heroic mountain kingdom with son et lumière shows. For the moment though it is a quiet place, high in a mountain bowl, offering a glimpse of precipitous Mount Lovcen and its mausoleum for the poet Njegos, both strange and fascinating.

Richard Davy

In search of little breaks with Christmas tradition



With 51 booking days left till Christmas there is no room to be had at many an inn. Already it is too late to book Christmas in Vienna, Salzburg or Rome if you have been toying with the idea of one of Swan Hellenic's Art Treasures Tours, although there are still a few places on the eight-day Seville Christmas break.

The guest lecturer in Seville will be Felipe Fernandez-Armesto, author of *Ferdinand and Isabella*, and a book on Christopher Columbus, whose tomb is on the holiday itinerary. Christmas in Seville, with full board at the Hotel Alfonso XIII, flights and sightseeing costs £685 per person.

Jerusalem and Bethlehem are the Christmas Day excursions offered to cruise passengers on Swan Hellenic's ship Orpheus. There is a 10 per cent reduction being offered on the lowest price cabin for the 12-night cruise beginning on December 21, which now costs £683. Telephone 01-247 0401 for further information.

Following a Christmas star of another kind, Santa Claus fans in search of a shorter Christmas break can fly to Lapland for the day by Concorde. After a 7.30am take-off from London the supersonic reeve will breakfast on champagne on their way to the frozen north, lunch at Rovaniemi on a choice of local and traditional British Christmas dishes, before flying home with an airborne meal, more champagne and a scheduled 7.30pm touchdown. The passenger list for this £799 day out includes travellers of 18 months and 80 years old. Further details from Goodwood

Travel, St James H.C. 78 Castle Street, Canterbury, Kent (0227 65967).

St James has been popular Christmas ingredient long as anyone can remember and high season prices apply to winter sports holidays over the whole of the festive season. The choice here is between jolly and economic chalet life for a group of skiers or a kind of resort, or sample typically alpine hospitality at a hotel.

Even self-catering can be carefree and festive in France where the character, bakers, a different food sellers offer ten dazzling arrays of real cooked delicacies especially for the big holidays. If the are not skiers in the party sure to pick somewhere pretty and lively, like Zermatt or St Moritz in Switzerland, or in Austria or Aspen in the United States, where there will be plenty for everyone to do.

Not so kooky perhaps, but where many people dream of spending Christmas in a warm, sunny, traditional English flat. Log fire, good food and no washing up with someone else's mess. The Old Ship Hotel in Brighton (0273 29001) offers a three-night Christmas programme at £165 a head (children up to 12 sharing their parents' room free). Games, competitions, a visit to the pearlyman, coffee and mince pie after Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve are included. A number of hotel chains publish full brochures on their Christmas offerings. Just

House Forte's Christmas High-time Holidays and New Year Celebrations brochure divides these breaks into several categories. For real party spirit and non-stop entertainment they suggest one of their celebration breaks. Choose the Castle Hotel at Windsor and this will cost £65 per night. Family parties are another category with a starting price of £51 per night at the Imperial Hotel, Barnstable.

The breaks described as traditional aim for a house party atmosphere, and for those who want nothing more than to put their feet up with a good book, there are special peace-and-quiet breaks. Four nights at the Upper Reaches, a sixteenth century mill at Abingdon, costs £248. For details telephone Trust House Forte (01-567 3444).

Good food has a special place in the gourmet's Christmas plans and if those include being away from home, the choice of hotel must be careful indeed. Prestige Hotels (01-734 4267), an association of privately owned hotels, can usually be relied upon for the excellence of their tables. Members offering special Christmas Glen in Hampshire, Eastwell Manor in Somerset, and Bodysgallen Hall in North Wales.

And if Christmas in London followed by the January sales and taking in all the shows beats rustication, most of the hotels offer special deals. Christmas lunch at the Ritz, Palm Court and costs £37 a head.

Shona Crawford Poole

Guided by an excellent touch

I have been a keen hotel-watcher all my adult life, ever since, when I first came down from university, I hitch-hiked around Ireland and came across a hotel of rare delight, Achamore House, on the western tip of Achill Island, Co Mayo.

It was run by an eccentric Englishman, Major Freyer, who would refuse you a room if he thought you an O.M. which stood for an Oldie Mouldie - his term for the average hotel guest at more conventional establishments. He didn't charge you at all if he thought you could afford it, but charged you extra if you didn't have a bath every day. There were other house rules or routines of a similar nature.

Achamore House wouldn't suit everyone and I am not sure that I would care for it as much myself now that I am older - and possibly mouldier. We want different things from hotels at different stages of our lives, and according to our income and the company we are with. A hotel that suits a business executive on his own is unlikely to meet the needs of a honeymoon couple. And who wants a family hotel on what used to be called a dirty weekend?

Nevertheless, Major Freyer's elysium has characteristics in common with good hotels anywhere. It was a small personally-run establishment in which the resident owner, with a sense of vocation, created a distinctly convivial atmosphere - a far cry from the bland homogenized character of a hotel run by a cost-conscious manager responsible to head office.

Although the *Good Hotel Guide* covers a wide spectrum of hotels in many different price brackets, there are features that all good hotels in common in the term have in common of making you feel welcome, of cleanliness and of a decently sprung bed.

Some hotels ingratiate themselves by providing a range of little extras - bath essences, hair-dryers and kimonos in the bathroom, for instance, or glasses of sherry and a jar of home-made biscuits in the bedroom, not to mention Scrabble sets, binoculars and a shelf of books as an alternative to television and radio.

What to look for in a room at the inn

Hilary Rubinstein
editor of the
Good Hotel Guide

While welcoming the laudable of these touches, I don't regard them as important in themselves, but only as an indication of an attitude on the part of the hotelier to give "value added" bonuses at least not every day. There were other house rules or routines of a similar nature. Not all hotels can afford such bonuses, but at least not every day. There were other house rules or routines of a similar nature. Not all hotels can afford such bonuses, but at least not every day.

There are a number of other features which to me are important in selecting a hotel for inclusion in the guide. First, from gourmet to simple home cooking, should show respect for ingredients, use fresh produce whenever possible and avoid tinned and frozen food. There should be efficient accommodation in public rooms for conversation to be carried on in reasonable privacy or books read in adequate lighting, with neither activity having to compete in television, and bedrooms could be provided with decent lighting, reasonable ventilation and sound-proofing. What comes to the bill one should have a fair idea what to expect with no

Ray Bone

rude surprises from hidden extras.

All the hotels in the 1985 *Good Hotel Guide*, of which there are more than a thousand, are intended to meet these criteria, but some offer really outstanding value. Last year, for the first time, we inaugurated an award for hotel excellence which we called a César after the greatest hotelier of our time, César Ritz. Our purpose was in part to define the wide range of excellence, and in part to help the dedicated individual hotelier to survive and flourish against the formidable competition of the big battalions.

Our awards last year included one for "incomparable grandeur", another for "matchless decor", and a third for "the art of cuisine". At the other end of the spectrum were accolades for best family hotel, best B&B in town, and nostalgically recalling the charms of Achamore House, one for "utterly acceptable mild eccentricity".

This year we have devised nine new categories, but retained the last for sentimental reasons. Here are this year's winners. It would be improper to call them the best hotels in Britain, but they are certainly 10 of the best.

■ Most brilliant newcomer: Manor, Oak, Salmons, Great Milton, Oxfordshire.

■ Distinguished long service: Sharrow Bay, Ullswater, Cumbria.

■ Comprehensive excellence in the luxury class: Hambleton Hall, Hambleton, Leicestershire.

■ Best country-house hotel in the medium-price range: Summer Lodge, Evershot, Dorset.

■ Outstanding value in a country hotel: Minford Hotel, Tal-y-llyn, Gwynedd.

■ Maintaining old-fashioned virtues in the metropolis: Ebury Court Hotel, Ebury Street, London, SW1.

■ The best country-town hotel: The Angel, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.

■ Most civilized guest house: Rhyd-Garn-Wen, Cardigan, Dyfed.

■ Best inn of the year: Riverside Inn, Canonbie, Dumfriesshire.

■ Utterly acceptable mild eccentricity: Abbey Hotel, Penzance, Cornwall.

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VALUES

Light

Beryl Downing reports on an attempt to drag Britain out of the dark ages with some bright new designs for lamps

The clocks go back, the lights go on, the bills go up. But are you any more illuminated than you were a year, or 10 years ago? Compared with the rest of Europe we are still in the dark ages.

While the Continent is bathed in the bright, white light of halogen, we are still hanging round with old-fashioned central light fittings and retailers are doing very little to encourage us to change our ways.

Did you know, for instance, that this is Home Lighting Fortnight? If not, fear not, the event appears to be operated on a dinner-switch. It is supposed to involve window displays and advertising by the 200 members of the Association of Lighting Retailers; but Woolworth, who are members, deny all knowledge of it, so there will be no emphasis on lighting in their nationwide branches.

Perhaps the prize of £100 for the best window display is too small to attract much enthusiasm, but the promoters also suffer from the inherent problems of the industry - little possibility of cohesive effort from innumerable small outlets and a dogged insistence on the part of the public to furnish their houses with fake Victorian fittings and bobbie fringes.

Even British Home Stores, who built their reputation for good lighting on an advanced attitude to modern design, have based their Lighting Fortnight window displays throughout the country on pink and white co-ordinates and brass and glass. Their modern fittings have to be sought out in the departments.

This may be the way to sell more fixtures at the price of the lighting season, but it is not the way to make an impact and influence people. A shop win-

dow is probably the only place in a high street store with the facility to display the decorative effects of light rather than light fittings. Once in the department there is little hope of using uplighters and wall washers when the walls are already awash with spot lamps and wall brackets.

So until high street stores resolve the display problem, there will be no change in attitudes, except from those who can afford to go to a lighting consultant - but they are a small band in comparison with the proliferation of interior designers.

John Cullen's showroom at 1 Woodfall Court, Smith Street, London SW3 (01-730 5585), is, as far as I know, still the only place in the country where you can see classic and modern lighting effects in the equivalent of a domestic setting. Certainly worth a visit, whether you are planning to light a piece of sculpture or an entire house.

Artemide at 17-19 Neal Street, London WC2 (01-836 6753) concentrate entirely on the most advanced Italian lighting, designed by the big names - Magistretti, Sottsass, Giamondi, Forcolini - and also specialize in energy saving and have many fittings which make the best use of halogen bulbs, which are widely used in European houses as well as in their offices.

Halogen produces a very white light from a tiny bulb, giving more light for each watt than a conventional bulb and lasting a good deal longer. When a tungsten filament evaporates it becomes deposited round the bulb, burning and blackening it, but the introduction of halogen gas turns evaporated tungsten into a compound which is redeposited on the filament and reforms it as tungsten. This process only takes place at extremely high temperatures, so the bulb, usually quartz as glass would

relief

Lights fantastic: From left, Hales uplighter by Carlo Forcolini with reflector break up the light and create colour pattern on the ceiling. Artemide halogen lamp with fixed head arm in white or red, called Abele by Lucé, £139. Similar version, floor standard, called Calthea, £199. John Lewis Oxford Street and Peter Jones, Sloane Square Table lamp 10in high in white matt porcelain with petal

shaped diffuser in synthetic textile and silvered 100 watt bulb, £68.90, called Area 50 by Mario Bellini, also available in 13in and 21in heights at Artemide. Reproduction moves from Edwardian to Art Deco at British Home Stores: lamp base and shade in beige or white, £15.99. Triangular halogen lamp extends on telescopic stilts from 12½in to 32½in. Kandiko by Lucé £155 at John Lewis and Peter Jones.

melts, is made very small so that it is close to the filament to maximise the heat. The light beam produced from such bulbs is narrow and intense - particularly useful for display lighting of ornaments and pictures and for task lighting - reading, or close work.

The most imaginative use of halogen is in some of the uplighters to be seen at Artemide but Halogen has hit the high street, too. John Lewis branches have an interesting range of Italian uplighters and desk lamps in white, black or burgundy from £139 to £250 and their Kandiko lamp is one of the most innovative designs you are likely to see in a countryside store. It consists of two triangles - a base and a lamp head - supported by three extending chrome struts. The lamp can be tilted at any angle and the supports twist to hold it in position, making it an

extraordinary piece of decorative engineering. Halogen is not the only energy saver. Philips have just launched a campaign to promote their SL lamps, first introduced in 1980 and since copied by other manufacturers. These much less electricity than conventional bulb and last 10 times as long.

House energy saving has hit the high street, too. Philips are emphasizing the safety aspect of being able to leave a light permanently on in porches or stairs and in children's rooms.

The 9 equals a 40 watt bulb, SL a 60 watt and SL25 a 100 watt. All will fit into a standard socket, but they are very much larger and heavier than a conventional bulb - I found one 7½in top-heavy for my table lamp, so they are probably a bit of a suspended fitting, although they are not beautiful to hold.

They cost £8.50 per bulb at John Lewis (which is a shock at first), but each will burn for 5,000 hours instead of the 1,000 hours from an ordinary bulb, using one quarter the electricity and saving on the cost of four extra bulbs.

Whatever new and different ideas are introduced, there will always be a market for period light fittings for old houses and traditional interiors.

Those who have managed to find a vase or base on an antiques stall or at auction and would like to have it converted into a lamp may like to know that this can be done at Liberty in Regent Street, London W1 for £20, any size or at Yardstick Designs off Knightsbridge (from £17.25).

Yardstick do a lot of work with interior designers and have their own collection of old porcelain vases to turn into lamps - a small pair of Cantonese vases suitable for a

dressing table is around £172.50.

They also have three sizes of urn-shaped bases which can be painted with special finishes to match marbled or stippled walls, or in special colours to match motifs from fabrics. These cost from £97.75 to £149.50.

Shades are available, too - card ones from £14.38 to £31.75, painted ones from £21.38, pleated silks from £46 for a 10in to £68.00 for 17in. Or you can have your own fabric laminated as a shade, or special finishes painted on to match a marbled base. Yardstick Designs are at 31 Kinnerton Street, London SW1 (01-235 9091).

Christmas Gift Guide

FOR HIM

SCRIPPHOLLY - Fascinating, collectible for the money minded. Write for free literature of Personalised Stationery. 50 Old Bond St, W.1. 01-493 3006.

PIPE SMOKE - Send 25p stamps for our catalogue of genuine pipe and accessories. Write for free literature. 50 Old Bond St, W.1. 01-493 3006.

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ROLEX, PATEK, PIAGET etc. New and old watches. Write for free literature. 50 Old Bond St, W.1. 01-493 3006.

FOR HER

DIAMONDS - If you are tired of high insurance premiums and looking for a more secure way to invest your money, diamonds are the answer. Write for free literature. 50 Old Bond St, W.1. 01-493 3006.

DESIGNER KINTWEAR

Hand made to measure knitwear. Write for free literature. 50 Old Bond St, W.1. 01-493 3006.

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This unique calendar consists of seven beautiful large-format colour transparency reproductions of windows by John Piper, with biographical notes by Myfanwy Piper. The reproductions include The Britten Memorial window, Aldeburgh and the Baptist window, Coventry Cathedral. Each transparency is detachable for separate display.

PARROTS - For Him, For Her, For Children and even for Those Who Have Everything. Three floors of sparkling ideas - from the distinguished through the pretty to the novel and the hilariously rude. Most of them are thoroughly useful too. Send for PARROTS FULL COLOUR CATALOGUE (£1.30 post free) which shows around 800 of our best ideas priced from 20p to over £1,000 and which we despatch to anywhere.

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COLLECTING

A great impression by all that is small

I was as Gulliver in Lilliput. The Lord High Treasurer (remembered from childhood reading) was with me, and for the moment he relented over the expense of having Gulliver in their midst, for he had cost the Emperor a million and a half sprigs. In Lilliput a sprig was their greatest golden coin, "about the bigness of a spangle", and now before me was a whole cabinet of the choicest examples of these pieces, there for me to examine.

The cabinet was no more than 75mm high, beautifully made in English walnut. For just a moment I lifted it up carefully from the table, and it weighed - contents and all - less than 198 grams. Inside were 14 trays, 13 of them with little round holes for the coins to fit into. The last, of double thickness, was a plain drawer. The collection contained over 90 different coins and medallions - spangle-sized sprigs indeed, each and every one of them - filling up the trays. I cannot think of any other cabinet, rich or rare, that has given me as much pleasure as this little one.

We live in a micro-world, and it seems more and more that the great inventors of our age tell us that all things familiar to us are better when shrunk. But there have been generations of collectors who have always thought small. In Windsor, I and my children rush fondly to the Queen's Doll's House, drawn to a world where everything is in miniature.

Miniature books, too, existed in the days before printing, and were veritably mass produced in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. And micro-numismatics has been around for a long time as well. Coins, even big ones, have the disadvantage of being small items, but the collector brave enough to accept that all that is small is not bad, can find much enjoyment in them.

The collecting "bug" starts in curious ways. The owner of the cabinet I have described is an avid collector of facts, just as much as objects and coins, and back in the 1930s, he read in a biography of Frederick (The Grand Old) Duke of York that miniature medals were produced to be set into memorial rings for wearing at the duke's funeral. My friend started a search for such a medal and that was the beginning of the collection. These jewelry pieces were struck in this country depicting George IV, William IV and Queen Adelaide, Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, and some of their children.

The British Museum has a unique portrait medal of John Brown, quite large at 13mm diameter, and set into a pin. Wellington was very popular and there must be at least five different medals of him. Nelson had been killed before they became fashionable, but Lord Byron is found on two. These medals were struck at a time when the new reducing machine made the die work possible, and some pieces are very small indeed. One medal of Queen Victoria weighs only 2.62 grains or 0.17 grams, and it is only 5.5mm in diameter. If the collector is more broadminded, accepting a diameter of around 20mm, then his whole field of collecting - will expand too: 20mm is still small, but it is four times the size of the really miniature pieces.

In France Napoleon appears on several medals, but the tradition goes back further to the monarchy, and the earliest miniature medal that I have seen is of Henry IV, dated 1605. The tradition of medal striking has long been accepted as both art and business by the French. British coins offer one opportunity, the little penny of the Maundy series, which has been continuously struck in silver since the reign of Charles II. The present day Maundy penny of the Queen is 11mm diameter and weighs less than half a gram.

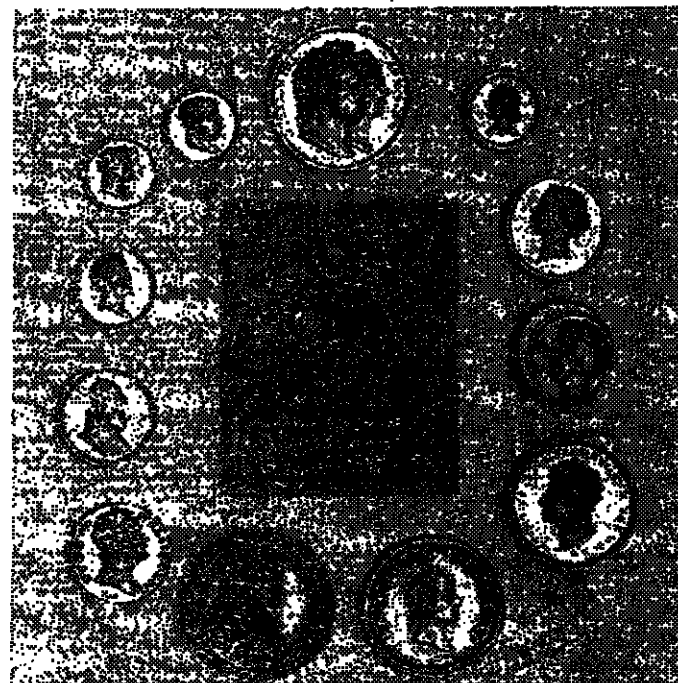
The Greeks are credited with inventing our "modern" coinage, and they certainly also invented miniature coins. The Romans, too, had some minute pieces or minims, all of which must have been hard to strike, while harder still would have been the actual making of the die, cutting a reversed image, 6mm in diameter, into cold metal. Above all else, they must have been diabolical to go shopping with, one moment tucked up in the toga, the next spinning off down the road.

More recently the Germans managed to get 32 gold coins from one ducat, while the Nepalese split their gold mohar into 64 parts. It was left to the Indians to perfect that most worthless of all small coins - the dam. First minted in the sixteenth century, they were then, and still are, "not worth a dam".

Having aroused the interest, perhaps I should suggest to the owner of the little cabinet, that he publish a book of the collection - in miniature of course.

Daniel Fearon

Daniel Fearon is the author of *Spink's Catalogue of British Commemorative Medals 1558 to 1984* (Spink, 1984, £12.95).



Small wonders: An ancient Greek gold obol (right, centre) and a group of English and European miniature medals, which were popular for making up into jewelry pieces

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 486)

Prizes of the New Collins Concise English dictionary will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, November 9, 1984. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 12 Coley Street, London WC9 9YT. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, November 10, 1984.

- ACROSS
- 1 Mythical basket (8,3)
 - 2 Violent attack (7)
 - 3 Radiolocal (5)
 - 4 Pig pen (3)
 - 5 Military group (4)
 - 6 Carnival (4)
 - 7 Be against (6)
 - 8 Publicity stunt (4)
 - 9 Pincer (4)
 - 10 Injury (6)
 - 11 Dispatch (4)
 - 12 Manner (4)
 - 13 Spider's net (3)
 - 14 Excuse (5)
 - 15 Examine closely (7)
 - 16 Goal perimeter (6,5)

- DOWN
- 1 Brazilian palm (5)
 - 2 Beat (4)
 - 3 Divulges secrets (4)
 - 4 Nimble (4)
 - 5 Eccentric (7)
 - 6 SW Pakistan province (11)
 - 7 Financial supporter (11)
 - 8 Thin paper (6)
 - 9 Foot digit (3)
 - 10 Scanty (6)
 - 11 Basket (7)
 - 12 Cambridge river (3)
 - 13 Pastoral poem (5)
 - 14 Brains (4)
 - 15 Farm outbuilding (4)
 - 16 Driver (4)

SOLUTION TO No 485
ACROSS: 1 Credit 5 Jigsaw 8 Emu 9 Circus 10 Noodle 11 Peer 12 Inactive 14 Swampy 15 Beggar 16 Insipid 22 Gory 24 Damage 25 Abilene 26 Duet 27 Tetchy 28 Outside
DOWN: 2 Raze 3 Decorum 4 Testify 5 Junta 6 Ghast 7 Alluvial 13 Cue 15 Winsome 16 Pig 17 Bravado 18 Goggles 20 Isaac 21 Noddy 23 Razed
Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise

The winners of prize concise No 486 are: A.M. Polhill, Tipton; St. John, Pilsbury, Slingshot, Devon; and Mrs. H. Shaw, Shrewsbury. Down Lane, From, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

SOLUTION TO No 486 (last Saturday's prize concise)
ACROSS: 1 Clairvoyant 9 Nairobi 16 Lived 11 Nip 13 Edda 16 April 17 Laisle 18 Sure 20 Ants 21 Filly 22 Tusk 23 Truce 25 Use 28 V sign
DOWN: 2 Laid 3 Lido 5 Vein 5 Yelp 6 Navarin 7 Inesistive 8 Adolescence 12 Insult 14 Ale 15 Habits 19 Resting 20 Apt 24 Rites 25 Unto 26 Epee 27 Halo

Name: _____ Address: _____

FAMILY LIFE



Children's idols: Playschool presenter Fraser Wilson encourages activity; Dangermouse strikes a pose

Speak up, don't shut up, about TV

There is a children's television programme, screened by the BBC, during school holidays, entitled "Why don't you...". Regular viewers will know that the complete title reads as follows: "Why don't you just switch off your television set and go out and do something less boring instead?" It is a suggestion that parents have been making to their children ever since the television set became part of the furniture.

Parents - or at least those in my particular circle of friends - seem to be growing increasingly concerned about the effects of a heavy daily diet of television. Certainly the publication this month of *Mind and Media* (Fontana £2.50) suggests that there is a market for more information.

The book deals not only with television but also with computers and video games, the author, Patricia Marks Greenfield, is Professor of Psychology at the University of California and has published numerous articles and several books on child development. What she has to say is clearly written, easily assimilated and, although it is aimed primarily at Americans, most of it is equally relevant to British parents.

There are many messages in the book, some predictable, others surprising. Professor Marks Greenfield, far from giving a blanket thumbs-down to television, suggests that if properly used it can help a child to acquire skills, both physical and mental, inspire creative

thinking and teach children who have difficulty with traditional learning techniques.

One of the most interesting chapters in the book deals with what the author calls "film and television literacy" - the ability (or lack of it) to understand television's symbolic code. She argues that having some grasp of the techniques used in television is critical to a child's interpretation. For example, a simple "cut" usually implies a change of scene; a "zoom" on a detail suggests that the detail is the key element in the more general picture that has just been seen and so on.

The author claims that techniques such as montage and close-up may not be understood by children under the age of seven; consequently they may get quite the wrong impression of what they are seeing.

Most parents will be able to think of examples of small children grappling with the images they see on the screen: the two-year-old who tries to grab hold of what he thinks is his teddy, the five-year-old who bursts into tears as a monster looms large. What we don't know, unless we watch all television programmes with our children, is precisely how they are affected by what they see.

Reading *Mind and Media* presents parents with a number of facts of which they may have been unaware, and confirms what many of us have always suspected - namely that our role as interpreters, commentators, comforters even, may be

critical, especially as regards very young children.

Television advertising, for example, relies heavily on certain techniques, many of which are easily understood by young audiences. Educationalists working in television know that jingles, slogans, names and their repetition are useful tools in the learning process. So do the advertisers, and they have soaring sales to prove it.

The careful parent will make sure that the child who is learning from *Playschool* will be taught the difference between that kind of programme and a 30-second commercial selling sweets.

It would be reassuring to believe that once a child has understood how to decode the symbolism of television and learned to separate fact from fantasy and fact from opinion, then he or she could be allowed to ingest a varied diet of television with few ill consequences. Unfortunately, Professor Marks Greenfield suggests with great authority, it isn't necessarily so.

Television reinforces stereotypes and can have an insidious influence on behaviour and beliefs. Watching a popular comedy series in which men are "machos" and women feeble or flighty, may leave an enduring conviction that all men and women can be categorized in this way.

Parents cannot prevent this happening; what they can do to counteract it is to comment

firmly, volubly even, on the stupidity, inequality, or fatuity of the script or the action. And that can achieve quite a lot.

They may not be very popular as a result, but in the long term the interference will be far more beneficial than keeping quiet and hoping that the child's common sense is in operation.

By the same token, parental comment and discussion can act positively in reaffirming those beliefs and attitudes that you wish your children to adopt, or at least listen to: so you should be just as vociferous about programmes that you believe are good - in content and design.

One final piece of advice from the author of *Mind and Media* she says: "It is useful to remember that television seems to be especially influential in forming attitudes and knowledge on topics with which children lack experience. Children who have a first hand knowledge of a topic make a clearer separation between the real world and the television world. Thus, parents can counteract television by giving their children first-hand experience in areas they consider important."

In other words: "Why don't you just switch off your television and..."

Judy Froshaug

Next week, Judy Froshaug talks to the people responsible for choosing and producing children's programmes.

BRIDGE

Don't throw away your defence

Everyone agrees that defence is the most difficult part of the game, and perhaps discarding is the most difficult part of defence. Finding a series of discards can be as daunting for the expert as for the novice, because not only must a defender keep the right cards, but must often do so without allowing declarer to notice his hand.

There is an everyday sort of rule. Bridge, North-South, Cam Dealer South.

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Do you detect the flaw in East's reasoning? The answer lies in assessing whether declarer's line of play is consistent with the defender's conclusions. If South's distribution had been 2-5-2-4, instead of allowing East to obtain the lead with the OQ, he would have returned to his hand with the AQ, cashed the KJ, and ruffed his fourth club in dummy.

On the next hand East had to think more deeply. Rubber Bridge, North-South, Game. Dealer West.

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CHESS

Pants to ponder about the ratings

With a total entry of 179 competitors in the two main events, the tenth annual Guernsey Festival of Chess was a greater success than ever before. Jointly sponsored by Lloyds Bank and Guernsey Tourist Board, the event was held in the Royal Hotel, Guernsey, from September 28 to October 4.

There were however, two other factors that contributed equally to the festival's success. They were the 51st system and the Elo rating system. The first enabled large gaps of strength to compete against each other on equal terms; the second needed a little more explanation.

Professor Arps Elo is an amiable, charming and accomplished professor of mathematics who has devoted his retirement years to the cultivation of fruit in the United States and the elaboration of a rating system for the whole chess world. His system assesses the skill and standing of chess players in figures based on their performance in play. "Gourna" are classified in order of strength in accordance with the known results of the competitors, and the (grandmaster, international master and FIDE master) are awarded in accordance with the performance of players in the various events.

So accurate is the Elo rating system that it is possible to forecast the performance of players and teams in chess events where the Elo ratings of the players is known. It is ingenious professor has also worked backwards to show how great players of the nineteenth century would have fared against those of the present day.

He has also performed feats of wizardry in forecasting the results of FIDE Olympiads and indeed of FIDE tournaments in general. And the Elo rating system has thrown a bright light on what is happening (or rather what should have happened) in the current world championship.

In the most recent Elo rating system (that published in July, 1984) Karpov led with a score of 27.15 and Karpov, the champion, was second with 27.05. Third was the talented Dutch grandmaster, Timman, with 26.50 and the marked distance by which the top two were leading emphasized the outstanding form they have both shown in international competitions.

Now, these figures forecast a narrow victory for the challenger in the match, by say, 6-4 or 6-5, along with a dozen or so

drawn games. Well, we have had a dozen draws all right, but it is Karpov who leads by 4-0. It is not too late for the figures to right themselves and validate the Elo rating system.

However, only if Karpov were to win the next six games would I cry *miraculous* and admit I was wrong to suspect that something untoward and evil had happened to the challenger, so as to render this match a mockery and a mere simulacrum of a genuine contest.

Now, back from the dark, evil abyss to the more friendly sunshine of the Guernsey event. It was won by last year's winner, the Dutchman Carlier who led all the way this time but finished equal first with Mark Hedden with 6 out of 7, gaining first place by a break-down. Some of the best chess was played by William Watson, who finished equal sixth with

Rock & jazz records of the month

REVIEW

Frankie say pleasure can pay

Pop music thrives on frivolity and hyperbole - but the pop business in 1984 was not prepared for the jolt to its nervous system that was provided by Frankie Goes To Hollywood.

Although Duran Duran, Wham and Culture Club may be happy to offer calm before the storm, the Frankies are not. Their debut double album, *Welcome To The Pleasuredome*, like the singles "Relax" and "Two Tribes" that preceded it, is a flash of lightning that has thrown most current pop music into hideous perspective.

Frankie, or more precisely the five members of the band, Holly Johnson, Paul Rutherford, Mark O'Toole, Brian Nash and Peter Gill, are to rock'n'roll what *Brookside* is to soap operas and Coca-Cola to fizzy drinks. Their native Liverpudlian savvy, irreverent attitude and love of outrage may have upset the tranquil appercept of daytime radio but their fans love them. *Welcome* had pre-release orders of more than one million copies - and that is before the band has played a live date in this country at a major venue.

The Frankie phenomenon, ingeniously stage-managed by the music journalist Paul Morley and the staff of ZTT, succeeds because it provides a reality which is alien to mainstream pop music. Frankie have had the ingenuity to treat children like adults and vice versa. Who else could have

Frankie Goes To Hollywood: Welcome To The Pleasuredome (ZTT 1Q1)

persuaded a 14-year-old girl in, say, Neath, to wear a tee-shirt proclaiming "Frankie Say Arm The Unemployed"?

Welcome To The Pleasuredome is a masterpiece, produced by that wizard of the mixing desk, Trevor Horn; it sets a new standard in aural entertainment.

Side one is constructed as a lengthy atmospheric tableau: operatic, melodramatic, compulsive and hard. "The World Is My Oyster" and the title track give fair warning of Frankie's preoccupations, which are entirely contemporary. It hardly matters that some people imagine them to have been manipulated by Horn's genius for production. Would The Beatles have succeeded without George Martin? Humility is no virtue in pop music and all parties understand this; Frankie's check knows no bounds. Samuel Taylor Coleridge might have approved their ransacking of Kubla Khan's decree; whether Graham Greene will appreciate their appropriation of the title of his essay on cinema is another matter.

Side two consists of the ultimate mega-mixes of Frankie's demonic disco hits; the sexual thrust of "Relax" and the subversive panic of "Two Tribes" exemplify a band

without peer at a time when nothing in pop seemed new anymore. Their version of the Whitfield/Strong song "War", previously recorded by the Temptations and Edwin Starr, is proof that these five boys who shook the world can play, and that Holly Johnson can sing, extremely well.

Here is a band who want to "go for it" and who aren't afraid to embrace both vulgarity and elegance; side three might be sub-titled "Frankie gives a history lesson". It starts with Gerry Marsden's scouse anthem "Ferry Cross The Mersey" (incidentally Gerry and the Pacemakers are the only band to have had number one hits with each of their first three singles); this side shows where the roots of the band lie.

Frankie deal with Bruce Springsteen's "Born To Run" like heavy rockers, capturing the song's American fantasy in full. The pace slows to ballad tempo as Johnson and the boys pay homage to Dionne Warwick's version of "San Jose", treating Bacharach and David's lyric and melody with the respect they deserve. If any dissenting voices remain this is the track which will silence them.

Most extraordinary of all is the instrumental "Wish (The Lads Were Here)" that closes this section, a brazen parody of Pink Floyd which would not sound out of place on that group's album, *Meddle*.

Finally, side four is "Frankie

goes to glamour school", with four songs that recall the period in the early 1970s when an album like Bowie's *Aladdin Sane* or Roxy Music's *For Your Pleasure* was the yardstick of taste and style, to be queued up for at the local record shop and then savoured at leisure.

Of the four numbers "Krisco Kisses" is the most immediately accessible, with the guitar recalling Mick Ronson and the chirpy lyric revealing another important ingredient in Frankie's recipe: a well-developed sense of humour.

Welcome To The Pleasuredome closes with the band's next single, "The Power Of Love", an overblown tear jerker of a ballad, surely destined to become the star on the top of the Christmas tree chart. Frankie have blazed a trail from sex to horror to true love. *Welcome*'s banquet may be too exotic for taste buds accustomed to the staple diet of conventional pop music, but like The Beatles' *White Album* it will repay repeated listening.

Frankie Goes To Hollywood have been accused of being a hype, of paying lip service to amorality, of fiddling while Rome burns. This is not the case. Pop music only survives if it is original; pop is about noise and excitement, not political judgments. Frankie are like a scream from a crevasse. They are welcome indeed.

Max Bell



Hanky panky: A flash and a fan for (from left) Rutherford, Gill, Johnson, O'Toole and Nash

Gilded wonder boy and golden older men

No musician in the short but crowded history of jazz has received such lavish and sustained backing from a record company as Wynton Marsalis. The trumpeter, now aged 23, came to prominence during his teens as a member of Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers and has subsequently conquered not merely the jazz world but also the citadel of what jazz musicians call "straight music".

Marsalis has come so far so fast that he is already an object of suspicion among those who do not believe that a musician can have anything worthwhile to say unless he has paid his dues in obscurity for the better part of his professional career.

Awards from the American recording industry for his jazz albums and for his recording of trumpet concerti by Mozart, Hummel and Haydn, have simply confirmed the belief of pessimists that what we are witnessing here is not so much the rise of a great jazz musician as the success of a carefully plotted marketing campaign.

Marsalis's latest effort is certain to harden that attitude. After proving his mettle as a small-group player and as an interpreter of the classical trumpet repertoire, he chooses to attempt a series of standard ballads arranged for trumpet and string orchestra, and the apparent conservatism of his decision is breathtakingly audacious. In 1984, after all, 23-year-olds are supposed to be thinking new thoughts, are they

Wynton Marsalis: Hot House Flowers (CBS 26145)
Stan Getz: Albert Dailey: Poetry (Elektra Musician 980 370-1)

not? What is this one doing performing "I'm Confessin'" in front of an orchestra playing an arrangement that would not shock Mantovani?

Having a ball is what he is doing, and that is what the listener will have as he hears Marsalis turn "Lazy Afternoon" into a Moorish meditation of such tension and poignancy that the obvious comparison with Miles Davis and Gil Evans in their Spanish period seems irrelevant. That ravishingly pure tone is turned on John Lewis's "Django", jazz's greatest lament, like a master's brush on a colour-by-numbers canvas; the coda of "Stardust" finds him holding a single lonely note for what seems like minutes as the strings die and fall around him.

In truth, he shines the brighter for the general ordinariness of the arrangements by Robert Freedman. There are echoes of Evans, and even of Eric Dolphy's *African Brass* charts for John Coltrane in "When You Wish on a Star", but mostly a kind of competence is allowed to prevail, only occasionally - as in the plinking and plunking pizzicato punctuations during "For All We-Know", which reminded me of Howard Brubeck's ghastly concerto for quartet and

orchestra - becoming a serious annoyance.

What would Marsalis have done with more adventurous arrangements, such as those created by Eddie Sauter for Stan Getz? That is a question which I hope the future will answer, but it will be asked now by those for whom Marsalis's apparent lack of interest in new forms represents a drawback.

All the great instrumental

soloists of jazz, they reason, have also been involved in important evolutions of the music's structure. Louis Armstrong asserted the primacy of the soloist; Coleman Hawkins led the way into improvisation based on harmony, while Lester Young educated a generation in a more flexible attitude to rhythm; Charlie Parker speeded everything up, and then Miles Davis slowed it down; Ornette

Coleman abolished the signposts of song-form. What, beside this, does Marsalis have to show to prove his greatness?

He need participate in no revolutions to convince many other listeners, including this one, of his remarkable quality. *Hot House Flowers* provides most of the answers.

By virtue of its concentration on melodic values, *Poetry* will provide a similar degree of pleasure - at least, for those to whom a duo of tenor saxophone and piano does not present too forbiddingly ascetic a prospect. Stan Getz is on tremendous form these days, and here he operates at full throttle on such pieces as Parker's "Confirmation". Thad Jones's "A Child Is Born", Gillespie's "Night in Tunisia" and the ballad "Lover Man", playing with fluency, passion and that beautiful tone.

The real point of the session, however, is to expose the fine piano playing of Albert Dailey, who appeared with Getz's quartet in the 1970s and died earlier this year. His sympathetic accompaniment is thrown into sharp relief in this session, recorded in 1983, and one rarely notices the absence of bass or drums; his solo feature, a reading of "Round Midnight", is a fitting epitaph to a musician who, like many others in jazz, deserved wider celebrity. Perhaps it behoves us, then, not to begrudge it when we see it achieved.

Richard Williams



Andacious conservatism: Wynton Marsalis in rehearsal



Still superlative: Stan Getz photographed in 1958

GALLERIES

THE WEEK

Time trip to England's golden age



leak though George Orwell's view of art in 1984 may have been, there has been a cavalcade of shows this year all claiming to be more definitive than the last. "The Golden Age of Anglo-Saxon Art", which opens at the British Museum on Friday, is the second "Golden Age" of the year, after the National Gallery's "Golden Age of Danish Painting". Going one step further back in time from the Romanesque exhibition at the Hayward Gallery this summer, it skillfully attempts to upstage that period as well.

The show is organized by the British Museum and British Library, working together in a trace which sounds rocky in itself. "We thought of having it some time ago, and suggested it to the museum", says Janet Backhouse, one of the organizers at the library, "but I expect by now they think it's all their idea". There is one point on which the two parties agree, that this is the last period of England's fine, indigenous style before it became tarnished for ever by foreigners with 1066 and the coming of the Romanesque.

The exhibition celebrates the 1,000th anniversary of the death of Aethelwold, Bishop of Winchester, and the centrepiece will be his magnificent Benedictional, from which we take our initial letter (above). It comes from the British Library collection and can be seen with sculpture, ivories and metalwork from 966-1066, a period never covered by an exhibition before.

Many of the names featured come right out of the mists of English mythology: King Alfred (whose famous Jewel can be seen in the prologue section, on loan from the Ashmolean Museum), King Canute, and Aethelred the Unready. It is often the way of history, however, that the less-known names preside over the most productive periods. King Edgar, for example, who ruled

wisely and peacefully from 959 to 975, had three remarkable bishops: Aethelwold, Oswald and Dunstan, all great patrons of the arts.

Five years after Edgar's death, under a monarch who is more famous today, Aethelred the Unready, the country was invaded once more by the Vikings. Most of the artifacts on show are religious and show a distinctive taste for lively, decorative pattern-making. In the manuscripts in particular, the modern eye, familiar with newspaper cartoons, can find much that is amusing: a sinner-eyed Christ, for example, peering out from behind a twitching arras, presumably in order to lend inspiration to the saint who sits with thoughtful expression and quill poised. The scribe Eadvi (known by name because he had the habit of signing his work) is seen eagerly prostrate before St Benedict, wearing a belt labelled "zona humilitatis", or "girdle of humility".

The Harley Psalter (1010-1030) is particularly charming, packed with pictures as crowded as the chorus at the opera. Angels and men all have outsize hands which appear to wave. Al Jolson-style, and Leviathan has a corkscrew tail.

Equally amusing is a rare secular manuscript on the life of Queen Emma, wife of Aethelred the Unready. It is clearly an exercise in sycophancy, complimenting her at every turn.

The York Minster gospel book is, according to Miss Backhouse "alive and well and living in the twentieth century". The present Archbishop of Canterbury used it recently, and it will have to leave the exhibition temporarily in December to carry out its job.

Sarah Jane Checkland

"The Golden Age of Anglo-Saxon Art" is at the British Museum (636 1555) from Friday until March 10, 1985, Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.30-6pm.

Openings

BRITISH RAIL PENSION FUNDS
PICTURES: Thirty-five major paintings collected not for love but for investment, between 1974 and 1980. Includes works by Brueghel, Rubens, Gainsborough, Monet, and Picasso. Thomas Agnew and Sons, 43 Old Bond Street, London W1 (629 6176). Opens Thurs. until Dec 14, Mon-Fri 10.30am-5.30pm, Thurs 9.30am-7pm.

WILLIAM TURNER OF OXFORD: Chance to assess "the other Turner" in a touring exhibition organized by the Oxfordshire County Museum Services. Bankside Gallery, 48 Hopton Street, Blackfriars, London SE1 (022 7821). Opens Tues. until Dec 2, Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-6pm.

MICHAEL KIDNER: Retrospective of paintings, drawings and sculpture from 1952-1984. Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 (402 8875). Opens tomorrow, until Dec 2, daily 10am-6pm.

Selected

THE BRITISH ART SHOW: Birmingham City Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square (021 2352834). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm; and the Ikon Gallery, 86-72 John Bright Street (021 6430708). Tues-Sat 10am-6pm. An attempt to summarize all that has been seminal in British art over the last five years. Includes Anthony Caro and Richard Wentworth but not Bridget Riley or David Mach.

MIDLAND VIEW 3
Midland Group Arts Centre, Carlton Street, Hockley, Nottingham (0602 582636). Until Nov 17, Tues-Fri 11am-7.30pm, Sat 10am-5.30pm. Large exhibition selected from an open submission, demonstrating the quality of current work by artists living in the Midlands.

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As you walk under the huge blocks of the Lion Gate, it's easy to picture the king's return from Troy after ten long years of war.

Unfortunately, the welcome awaiting him was less than warm. Along with beautiful Cassandra (whom he'd rescued from the sack of Troy), he was bloodily murdered by the lover of his wife Clytemnestra. The Gods, however, would not let such treachery go unpunished.

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ATOL 307

Photography

RPS ANNUAL
Kodak Museum, High Holborn, London WC1 (405 7841). Until Dec 8, Mon-Fri 9am-4.45pm. The Royal Photographic Society's 128th annual international exhibition is its usual hotchpotch of romantic landscapes, moody portraits and stylish colour prints, mostly rather uninspiring.

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHS
Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (589 6323). Until Jan 4, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2.30-6pm. On show are the results of the wildlife photographic competition organized by various sponsors, and with a stunning winner. Amateurs and professionals demonstrate what can be achieved with determination and concentration.

ROADS... TO WIGAN PIER
Impressions Gallery, 17 Colliergate, York (0904 54724). Until Dec 1, Tues-Sat 10am-6pm. Social aspects of life in the north of England from six young photographers who take as their starting point Orwell's *The Road to Wigan Pier*; mining communities, canal dwellers, one-parent families are featured among the 100 black-and-white prints.

MANCHESTER FOOTBALL
Manchester Studies, Cavendish House, Cavendish Street, Manchester (061 228 6171). Until Nov 23, Mon-Thu 10am-6pm, Fri 10am-5pm. Press and studio photographs plus material drawn from the Manchester Studies Archive, documents the growth of football in Manchester from 1880 to 1939.

Michael Young

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS
Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1
12th October - 18th December 1984

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- DEGAS
- DELYAUX
- DERAIN
- DIX
- ENSO
- ERNST
- FEININGER
- FREUD
- GAUGUIN
- GIACOMETTI
- VAN GOGH
- GONCHAROVA
- GRIS
- GROSZ
- HECKEL
- HENRICH
- HOPMANN
- HOPPER
- HUBBUCH
- JAWLENSKY
- JITEN
- KANDINSKY
- KIRCHNER
- KITAJ
- KLIJUN
- KLUIS
- KOKOSCHKA
- KUPKA
- LARIONOV
- LEGER
- LISITZKY
- MACKE
- MAGRITTE
- MANET
- MARC
- MIRIS
- MONET
- MOHOLY-NAGY
- MONDRIAN
- MUELLER
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- PICASSO
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- POPOVA
- RAUSCHENBERG
- RENOIR
- ROZANOV
- SCHAD
- SCHIELE
- SCHLICHTER
- SCHMIDT-ROTLUFF
- SCHWITTERS
- SEVERINI
- SISLEY
- SPENCER
- STILL
- TANGUY
- TOULOUSE-LAUTREC
- VLAAMINCK
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THE WEEK

Sport

KICKING OFF: The Australian Rugby Union team play the first international of their tour against England at Twickenham this afternoon. The Wallabies have made an uncertain start, losing to Cardiff, but have the potential to stretch an experimental England side with five new caps including scrum half and skipper, Nigel Melville. The match kicks off at 2.30pm and is covered live in *Grandstand* on BBC1.

BIG HITTERS: Anxious to erase the memory of his knockout by James "Bonecrusher" Smith, British heavyweight boxing hope Frank Bruno takes on another American, "Jolting" Jeff Jordan, at the Albert Hall, Jordan also paces a punch, having finished 11 of his 18 opponents within the distance. The fight is on Tues, highlights in *Sportsnight*, BBC1, Wed, 10.20-11.15pm.

FIRST SERVICE: Thirty-two of the world's leading men tennis players, including John McEnroe, Ivan Lendl and Jimmy Connors, are competing for prize money of £176,000 (£235,340 to the winner) in the Benson and Hedges tournament which starts on Tues at noon, with the final on Nov 11 at 2pm, Wembley Arena, Wembley, Middlesex (box office 902 1234). Television coverage starts on BBC1 on Wed in *Sportsnight*, 10.20-11.15pm.

SECOND LEGS: The second round of the three European football competitions are being played on Wed. Liverpool, holders of the European Cup, go to Portugal with a 3-1 lead over Benfica; Tottenham Hotspur are at home to Brugge with a 1-2 deficit; and Manchester United start 0-0 against PSV Eindhoven at Old Trafford. *Midweek Sports Special*, ITV, 10.35pm-12.05am.

Auctions

IRISH REPRO: When Joseph McGrath, the founder of Waterford glass and a distinguished Irish nationalist politician, bought Caneby House near Dublin in 1933 he employed the leading Dublin cabinetmaker James Hicks



Traditional transport: The Queen in the Irish State Coach on her way to Parliament and a 1900 Napier on the road to Brighton (see Other events)

to furnish it for him. Christie's are selling the contents of Caneby for the McGraths. Christie's at Caneby House, Co Dublin (0001 893154). Viewing today 9.30 am-5.30pm. Sale Mon and Tues at 11am.

SCHOOL FOR SALE: The remaining contents of the Convent School opened at Summers Place, Billingshurst, in 1945 by the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary are to be sold on Tues - poignant offerings that echo the world of Angela Brazil, including quantities of pine flap-top desks, a vaulting horse, four netball posts, five upright pianos (estimates £240-£120) and a quantity of open-backed pine pews with integral kneelers.

Schibby's at the Convent School, Summers Place, Billingshurst, West Sussex (040381 2983). Viewing today 9am-noon, Mon 10am-4pm. Sale Tues at 10.30am.

RARE STAMPS: Some of the world's rarest stamps - Sicilian - make up a £300,000 sale of a renowned private collection. The Kingdom of Sicily enjoyed its own

stamps for just 18 months in the late 1800s, hence their rarity. One stamped envelope is estimated at £10,000.

COLLECTING TWENTIETH CENTURY: The furniture, porcelain silver and glass of the last 80 years is now keenly collected but it is often hard to tell the "priceless antiques" from the junk. This sale, entitled "The Modern Movement", to include Art Nouveau and Art Deco demonstrates what is valuable and its worth, from old friends such as Lalique and Clarice Cliff to a startling pair of sedges shaped as boxing gloves, and modernist hand-knotted carpets. Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1 (839 9060). Viewing Mon, Tues and Wed 9am-4.45pm. Sale Thurs at 11am and 2.30pm.

Radio

NO COMPLAINTS: The black

American novelist, James Baldwin, who celebrated his sixtieth birthday this year, interviewed from his home in France about his life and influences. The discussion includes a look-back to his early novels, *Go Tell It on the Mountain* and *Giovanni's Room*, which made such an impact on their first publication in the 1950s. Radio 4, today, 10.15-11pm.

MASTERS OF THE INDIA: The ambitious dramatization of John Masters' sequence of novels about India under the Raj reaches *The Nightingale* of Bengal. Michael Cochrane plays Roderick Savage, who ignores the dire warnings of the Ignorance Guru and comes under the spell of the Raj. The Anglo-Indian cast also includes Carole Boyd, Eva Hagen, Souad Fares and Madhav Sharma. Radio 4, tomorrow, 9.02-10pm.

GOD ON THE WHITE HOUSE ROAD: An investigation by Rosemary Hargrave, the BBC religious affairs correspondent, into the part being played by religion in the American Presidential election. She talks to

voters in Washington, New York, Chicago, Little Rock and the Midwest. Radio 4, tomorrow, 10.15-11pm.

VINTAGE CIDER: Cider with Rosie, Laurie Lee's vivid picture of his childhood in a Cotswold village, was published 25 years ago. It has become a classic of modern literature and sold more than two million copies. In the first of two programmes tracing the origins of the book, Marjorie Lathouse talks to Lee's sister, Marjorie, about their shared childhood and to publishers and critics. Radio 4, Tues, 4.02-4.40pm.

A FROTH ON REALITY: In the first of his six Reith Lectures under the title, *Minds, Brains and Science*, the American philosopher Professor John Searle explores our common-sense notions of ourselves and offers his thoughts on that old philosophical chestnut - the connection between mind and brain. Radio 4, Wed, 7.45-8.15pm; repeated on Radio 3 on Nov 11, 10.30-11pm.

Other events

OFF CAMERA: Exhibition of the favourite outfits of the famous, including Pamela Stephenson's bikini bottom, Barbara Cartland's shockingpink gown, Toyah Wilcox's Egyptian print tunic and Zandra Rhodes's evening dress which she designed herself. There are garments, too, from Judi Dench, Glenda Jackson and David Bailey. Barbican Centre, Barbican, London EC2 (638 4141). Opens today, until Dec 3. Free.

LONDON TO BRIGHTON RUN: Prince Michael of Kent in a 1902 Wolseley and two former American Formula One drivers, Dan Gurney and Phil Hill, are among the record 330 participants in this year's commemorative run for veteran (pre-1905) cars. Vehicles set off from Serpentine Park, Hyde Park, London, tomorrow at 8am and must be in Brighton by 4pm to qualify for a finisher's plaque.

Fireworks

Gay Fawkes Night is on Monday, but some celebrations are being held this evening. The following is a selection:

Today

Sidcup: High fire-diver Don Lindburgh jumps at 6.30, 7.30 and 8pm; fireworks at 7.30pm; also funfair, King George's Playing Fields, Longlands Road, Sidcup, Kent. Adults £2, children 75p. **Beaulieu:** Fireworks Fair, with lighting of the bonfire topped by 12ft Guy at 6.30pm; comedy trampolines act; country and western music; best Guy competition. Adults £2, children £1 (including admission to the National Motor Museum). Beaulieu, Hampshire.

Tomorrow

Edmonton: Funfair, steel band and marching bands. 4pm, fireworks 6.15pm. Picketts Lock Centre, Edmonton, London N9. Adults £1.50, children £1.

Monday

Wandsworth: Bonfire 7pm, fireworks 7.30pm; jazz band and clowns from 6.30pm. Battersea Park, London SW11. Free. **Alexandra Park:** Fireworks at 8pm; Bavarian band, traditional food and licensed bars. Alexandra Pavilion, Wood Green, London N22. Adults 50p, children and pensioners free.

Lewes: Torchlit processions from 5.30pm; bonfires and fireworks displays, blazing tar barrel hurled into the River Ouse. Lewes, East Sussex. Free.

Ottery St Mary: Carnival procession through the town from 7.30pm, followed by traditional rolling of flaming tar-coated barrels at 8.15pm. Ottery St Mary, near Honiton, Devon. Free.

Edinburgh: Firework display, pipe band and clowns. Meadowbank Stadium, London Road, Stand E1.75, ground 75p. **Cardiff:** Gates open 5.45pm; bonfire lit 6.45pm; fireworks display 7pm. Cooper's Field, Butte Park. Adults £1, children 50p (80p and 40p in advance).

FILMS

An eclipse that came too soon

The British premiere of Eric Rohmer's *Full Moon in Paris* has inevitably been overshadowed by the sudden death last week of its leading actress, Pascale Ogier, from heart failure at the age of 24. She had planned to come to London for the opening.

Pascale Ogier was the daughter of Bulle Ogier, also an actress and known here for films like *Bonnie and Clyde*. She met Eric Rohmer in 1979 while she was a university student and he gave her a small part in his film, *Perceval de Galles*.

Stage and television work followed, and a film for Jacques Rivette. Last year she spent three months in London shooting - in English - *Ghost Dance*, a co-production between the German television company, ZDF, and Channel 4; then she went back to Rohmer for *Full Moon in Paris*.

Unusually she not only took the leading part but also designed the sets. The character she plays, Louise, is an interior designer furnishing her own pied-à-terre, so Pascale Ogier's work on the sets was a logical extension of her interpretation of the role.

Full Moon in Paris is the fourth in Rohmer's series of "Comedies and Proverbs" (an allusion to the collected plays of



Full of promise: Pascale Ogier, who died last week

Alfred de Musset) and takes as its text a proverb from the *Champion des Dames*: "A man with two women loses his soul, a man with two homes loses his mind".

For the purposes of the film, though, it is best to reverse the sexes. It is Louise who has the two homes; she also has two men, with others likely to crop up at any time. The film charts her shifts from one man, and one home, to the other. Her dilemma is that she wants the constant attention of the opposite sex but at the same time values her independence

and solitude. That is why she gets herself a pied-à-terre, as well as keeping on the flat in the Paris suburbs which she shares with a constant companion.

She enjoys the company, too, of a married man who is in love with her, she regards him as no more than a friend and escort. The delicate balance is upset when she has an impetuous affair with a third man (played by Christian Vadim, son of Roger Vadim and Catherine Deneuve).

All this is realized in Rohmer's characteristically spare and elegant style, confirming him as the cinema's leading minimalist. Like his previous films, *Full Moon in Paris* is, in the director's words, "less about what people do than what is going on in their minds while they do it".

It is also Pascale Ogier's film. Slim and dark, with large, expressive eyes, she was a talent extinguished too soon. Her Louise, which won the best actress award at the Venice Film Festival, seemed only the start of a brilliant career; now, sadly, it must stand as her memorial.

Peter Waymark

Full Moon in Paris (15) opens on Thurs at the Chelsea Cinema (351 3742) and the Camden Plaza (465 2443).

Openings

RED DAWN (15): The story of a group of American teenagers who take to the hills when the Russians invade, and their attempt both to survive and to defend their land. Directed by John Milius and starring Patrick Swayze and C. Thomas Howell. From Fri at the Leicester Square Theatre (830 5522).

HAMSHIN (15): Daniel Wachsmann's film about the pressures and divisions caused by the Israeli government's expropriation of the West Bank. The effects on the personal lives of one small community are illustrated by the strain imposed on a Jewish landowner's relationship with his Arab friend and employee. From Fri at the Phoenix, East Finchley (883 2233).

WOODY ALLEN: The first British retrospective, covering all 13 films he has directed from *Take the Money and Run* (1969) to *Broadway Danny Rose*, released from Fri until Nov 30 at the Barbican Centre Cinema (1 633 4141).

Selected

PRIVATE LIVES (PG): Phoenix, East Finchley (883 2233). Excellent film from veteran Soviet director Yuri Raizman, about a factory manager (Michael Yelend) whose enforced retirement leaves him exposed to relationships and problems he has never experienced. A sardonic look at the workings of Soviet society, and a brilliantly economical piece of filmmaking.

NINETEEN EIGHTY-FOUR (15): Odeon Haymarket (830 2738). Michael Radford's version of Orwell's totalitarian satire dunks the politics and never overcomes the novel's lack of dramatic action. It scores good marks, however, for two lead performances (John Hurt, Richard Briers). Late cinema for conjuring up a vision of the future with an eerie 1940s ambience.

KAOS (15): Arthouse One (437 2981). Paolo and Vittorio Taviani's epic, majestic film based on Pirandello's collection of tall stories about bandits, werewolves, pickpockets, and other strange aspects of Sicilian life. The action occasionally dawdles, but the imagery is magical.

LONDON FILM FESTIVAL: Runs from Nov 15 to Dec 2. Postal booking is now open for members of the British Film Institute only; public booking starts on Fri. National Film Theatre, South Bank, Waterloo, London SE1 (828 3232).

The information in this column was correct at the time of going to press. Changes are often made and it is advisable to check, using the telephone numbers given.

OPERA

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, London WC2 (836 3161). John Cox's production of Gilbert and Sullivan's heavily satirical *Pastime* revived after its recent success in the United States, tonight and Fri at 7.30pm. Graham Vick's controversial production of *Madam Butterfly* can be seen on Wed and Nov 10 at 7.30pm while Northern Miller's glittering *Arabella*, revived by David Pountney, is on Thurs at 7pm.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: Covent Garden, London WC1 (240 1068). Nicola Giuselevich sings *Godunov* in two more performances, on Wed at 6.30pm and Nov 10 at 7pm of Andrei Tarkovsky's production of Boris Godunov, conducted by James Lockhart. Both replace artists whose permission to work here has been revoked by the Soviet authorities. And tonight and on Tues and Fri at 7pm there are chances - the last of the season - to see Michael Gallo's production of *Carmen*, with its starry cast led by Teresa Berganza.

GLYNDEBOURNE TOURING OPERA: Theatre Royal, Royal Parade, Plymouth (0762 669595); Palace Theatre, Oxford Street, Manchester (061 238 9922). Glyndebourne's national tour ends its week in Plymouth tonight at 7.30pm with the still unfinished *Higglety Pigglety Pop!* and *Where the Wild Things Are*. Manchester next week with Sir Peter Hall's *Virgilio* *Costi* *Jan* *Tutte* and *Figaro* productions, revived by Lucy Bailey and Roger Williams, from Tues-Fri at 7pm on alternate nights. The Knussen/Sandak double bill returns on Nov 10 at 5pm and 8.15pm.

KENT OPERA: Peas Hill, Cambridge (0223 352000). The Orchard, Home Gardens, Bedford (0222 73311). Nicholas Hytner's memorable production of *King Priam* takes place in Cambridge tonight at 7.30pm. Then the company arrives back on home territory with Hytner's *Figaro* on Thurs, *King Priam* on Fri and finally Norman Platt's *The Soraglio* on Nov 10, all performances at 7.15pm.

HANDEL OPERA: Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (278 8916). Handel Opera perform the neglected *Imeneo* on Wed and Fri at 7.30pm and with the relatively popular *Radamisto* tonight and Tues, Thurs, and Nov 10 at 7.30pm. Charles Farncombe conducts.

OPERA NORTH: New Theatre, Kingston Square, Hull (0482 20463). Theatre Royal, Grey Street, Newcastle upon Tyne (202 322211). *Neleuco* in tonight at 7.15pm and on Newcastle on Tues and Nov 10 at 7.15pm. Elgar Howarth conducts. *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci* take to the stage in Tyneside on Wed and Fri at 7.15pm. The New Opera Company's realization of Krenak's notorious jazz-opera *Johnny Strikes Up* can be seen in Newcastle on Thurs at 7.15pm.

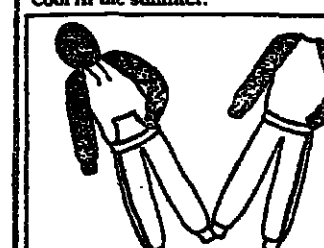
The week compiled by Peter Waymark: Theatre: Anthony Masters; Opera: Stephen Pettit

THE TIMES LEISURE AND TRACK SUIT OFFER

The growing legions of Keep Fit enthusiasts have brought about an increasing demand for new, comfortable sports and leisure wear.

WE have selected two high quality garments that have been designed for The Times readers by Mr President, the originators of the classic American leisure suits. Both styles have traditional "westchester" grey body and trousers with deep rayon sleeves and trouser stripe in navy blue. The track suit has a navy blue hood with draw-strings, stretch cuffs and waist-band and a front patch pocket that will double as a hand warmer. The leisure suit has deep stretch-knit crew neck, cuffs and waistband - both tops have the title of THE TIMES newspaper printed in soft navy blue flock on the left-hand breast.

THE trousers are the same for both outfits, grey body with navy blue stripe, drawstring waist and elasticated ankles. All garments are made of 50% cotton, 50% crease resistant and are fully machine washable. The inside surfaces have a soft fleecy lining that is warm in the winter and cool in the summer.



The wide range of sizes should suit most people and are as follows:

Trousers: Small (34in-36in), Medium (36in-40in), Large (40in-44in), Extra Large (44in-48in).

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THEATRE

A good tale of who, what and where

Oliver Goldsmith always claimed that the plot for *She Stoops to Conquer*, involving mistaken identities of both people and place, was based on an incident in his youth in Ireland when he was directed to a private house believing it to be an inn.

He ordered food and wine at this "inn", and it was provided by the family of their local squire, owner of the house. Goldsmith discovered his embarrassing situation when he asked for his bill the following morning.

Giles Block, who directs a new production of the play which opens at the Lyttelton Theatre on Thursday, takes the view that the story was more likely the product of Goldsmith's fertile imagination, told as a good tale likely to amuse Dr Johnson and others whose company he kept in London. True or not, it inspired the plot of one of the "most wonderful" of English comedies.

She Stoops to Conquer, enormously successful since its first performance in 1773, is a favourite in provincial theatres but has been rarely performed in London in recent years, and this production too began out of London.

It is the National Theatre's touring production, which normally opens in the London repertoire and then goes out on tour. As an experiment this year, it was decided to present a play specially for touring. It has already visited Bath, Norwich, Wolverhampton, Canterbury, Plymouth and Leeds, and after a week in London it goes out again to Cardiff, Manchester and Nottingham before returning to the National.

Block, who became an NT staff director in 1977, and has been director of platforms since 1981, tried to find a play with the widest possible appeal, and Goldsmith's masterpiece fitted his bill perfectly.

He found it difficult to tackle at first, since he had played in it himself, had seen it several times and consequently found a new approach elusive. "Then I settled down to read all his works and about his life and the more I read, the more I realized that the play was about his early life. There is a lot of Goldsmith in Tony Lumpkin and Marlow, and the relationships of the characters recall those of his own family. It is a wonderful story and the play gains strength from the well observed characters."

In preview

ANNIE WOBBLER: West End debut for a 1983 production seen in Birmingham and at New End, Hampstead. Nicholas McAuliffe in three short one-woman plays, written for her by Arnold Wesker, also stars. Annie Wobblar shows an old East End lady, cleaner for a Jewish family; Anna is a student preparing for a date; Annabella Wharton is a successful novelist preparing for a newspaper interview.

Fortune Theatre, Russell Street, London WC2 (836 2238). Previews from Wed at 8pm, Nov 10 and 11 at 5.30pm, Nov 12 at 8pm. Opens Nov 13 at 7.30pm. No part Nov 18.

Openings

BLOODY POETRY: Co-production by Foco Novo and Leicester Haymarket (where the play was first seen in Sept) is a new Howard Searn piece which examines the relationship between Byron, Shelley, the second Mrs Shelley and Byron's mistress, Claire Clairmont. Roland Rees directs. James Aubrey, William Gaminara.

Hampstead Theatre, Swiss Cottage Theatre, London NW3 (722 3901). Previews today at 4.30pm and 8pm. Opens Mon at 7pm, Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinees Sat at 4.30pm.

KEY TO THE WORLD: Paines Plough company bring the latest play about the search for progress, *Rademister* and *A Class of His Own*. Two British pop musicians and a journalist meet two East German communists in East Berlin. Julie Legrand, Dulcie LeClerc, Tim McInerney, Glyn Owen, directed by John Chapman. Lyric Theatre Studio, King Street, Hammersmith, London W6 (741 2311). Previews Wed and Thurs at 8pm. Opens Fri at 7pm, until Dec 6, Mon-Sat at 8pm.

MOTHER COURAGE: Judi Dench as the cantankerous woman of the title, in Brecht's prophetic 1938 study of humanity's inability to learn the futility of war. Howard Davies directs. Barbican, London EC2 (828 8795/638 8881). Previews today, Mon and Tues at 7.30pm, Press night Wed at 7pm, Thurs at 2pm and 7.30pm. In repertory.

Selected

GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS: Cottesloe, National Theatre (828 2252). Thurs and Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory. David Mamet's menacing account of the shark-eat-sprat world of American real-estate men has a resonance that spreads wide; a cast including Jack Shepherd in top form do it justice.

A LITTLE HOTEL ON THE SIDE: Avenel, National Theatre (828 2252). Wed-Fri at 7.15pm; matinee Thurs at 2pm. In repertory. Uproarious and (thanks to John Mortimer's translation) surprisingly witty version of the Feydeau farce better known as *Hotel Paradiso*, with Graeme Garden as a sly bourgeois adulterer, Deborah Norton as a marital dragon.

PASSION PLAY: Wyndham's (836 3028). Until Nov 24, Mon-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 8 and 8.30pm; matinees Wed at 3pm, Thurs, Sat and 7.30pm. In repertory. Peter Nichols's award-winning 1981 play about unwilling adultery. Stars Leslie Phillips.

Out of Town

STRATFORD: Royal Shakespeare Theatre (0789 295223). Richard III. Tues at 7.30pm. In repertory. Anthony Sher, Patricia Routledge, directed by Bill Alexander. The Merchant of Venice. Today (828 2252). Previews tonight, Mon, Tues, Wed at 7.45pm. Opens Thurs at 7pm, Fri and Sat at 7.45pm, matinees Wed and Sat at 3pm.

Love's Labour's Lost. Mon at 7.30pm. In repertory. Final new production of the season: Barry Kyle directs. Hamlet. Today at 1.30pm, Wed at 7.30pm, Thurs at 1.30pm. In repertory. Roger Rees, Brian Blessed. Virginia McKenna. Frances Barber directed by Ron Daniels. Henry V. Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory. Kenneth Branagh, with Cécile Paoli, Bernard Horstall, Sebastian Shaw, directed by Adrian Noble.

Youth Festival at The Other Place. Bookings by post only (enquiries 0789 295225 ext 18). Mon-Nov 17. Thirty-seven sessions including plays, workshops and discussions on the Shakespeare repertoire.

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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Sphinx-like Rowland walks away from Harrods

It is hard to overestimate the significance of yesterday afternoon's announcement that Lorrho has sold its 29.9 per cent stake in House of Fraser, the nationwide department stores group which boasts Harrods of Knightsbridge as the jewel in its crown. A six-year battle of unprecedented bitterness has been brought to a satisfactory conclusion for all sides, as was duly reflected in the rise in both companies' share prices in the wake of the news.

Lorrho's explanation of its decision is all too easy to understand. On Wednesday it learned that the Mo opies and Mergers Commission had been given leave to extend its investigation into House of Fraser for another three months. Mr Paul Spicer, a Lorrho director, has described this as the last straw: it must have been like running 25 miles of a marathon, only to be told the course had been extended by an extra five miles.

Unbeknown to the world at large, an offer was lying on the table from the immensely rich Egyptian Al-Fayed family which would take Lorrho out at a respectable profit. The temptation to pick up that offer has in the event proved irresistible.

There have been signs for several months that Mr Rowland "Tiny" Rowland, Lorrho's chief executive and dominating influence, was willing to consider a face-saving deal. Thanks to the at times unbelievably determined resistance put up by Professor Roland Smith, House of Fraser's chairman, the situation had reached a stalemate with no prospect of conclusion.

The conflict was taking up a disproportionate amount of management time on both sides, and both companies were being prevented from reaching their natural objectives. In the end, a prize which had originally seemed to be worth almost any sacrifice had come to be hardly worth the candle.

The outcome for Lorrho is straightforward. Mr Rowland has exchanged his thwarted ambitions for £138.5m of cash which is already earning interest. It will help to offset the company's net debt of £567m. But in the longer run it is likely that Mr Rowland, whose energy has never been in doubt, has identified some more interesting potential havens for such a sum. The early indications were that his eyes were turned towards the US.

In contrast, Lorrho's departure leaves a number of questions over the future of House of Fraser. For the first time since the days of Lord Fraser of Allander, the company is in the hands of strong and unshackled management. It can now have no excuse for not improving the performance of Fraser's sleeper provincial outlets, and there is no reason to suppose otherwise. Above all, they can sorely their wings at the strategic level. One possibility must be that the present tentative trading link with Hambro Life will be consolidated into something considerably closer, perhaps even a full merger.

Hambro Life's Mr Mark Weinberg would be a considerable asset as the retail sector stands on the verge of a revolution in the marketing of financial services.

The questions must surround the eventual intentions of the Al-Fayed family towards their investment in House of Fraser. They have described it as a long-term investment, but that is an over-used and oft-betrayed phrase in the world of bids and deals. Although they have held some investments for long periods and they have a business background stretching back for a century, they have also been known to play pass the parcel. Most notably, this happened nearly 10 years ago



End of a pipe-dream: Tiny Rowland loses the Fraser battle

when they exchanged a large stake in Costain, the British construction group, for a holding in Lorrho and a place on the Lorrho board. That Lorrho stake was later passed on to Gulf Fisheries.

Meanwhile, two of the Al-Fayeds are becoming Fraser directors and they look forward to working with the board to develop the company. That, for the time being, is reassurance enough for Professor Smith in his hour of liberation.

Sailing into uncharted waters

An accountant is an accountant is an accountant, to misquote Gertrude Stein, except of course when he is chartered. Then he acquires a status approaching that of a protected species. At least this is the impression with the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales gave yesterday, in reaction to the news that its arch-rivals, the Association of Certified Accountants, had been granted the right by the Privy Council to prefix its name with the word "chartered".

It would seem that although the association as a body can call itself chartered, the individual members cannot. Any certified accountant caught taking the word chartered in vain has been threatened with a fine. The association (or Chartered Association, as it is now known) has gone to great lengths to reassure its chartered brethren that this abuse will be actively discouraged among its members. A spokesman said soothingly yesterday: "Some of our members are quite happy to be called certified".

This appreciation of the sanctity of the chartered accountant doubtless helped the Chartered Association's case for the name change when it was heard by the Privy Council. When the Institute of Cost and Managements made a similar attempt last year to change its name to the Institute of Chartered Management Accountants, the request was turned down.

Although the institute has a Royal Charter the suspicion that a chartered management accountant might be mistaken for a bona fide chartered accountant was enough to ensure rejection.

As if to emphasize the distinction, the English, Scottish and Irish institutes of chartered accountants have just formed a committee of cooperation where they will discuss matters of mutual interest. Several old jokes come to mind.

Pound closes above \$1.25 against weakening dollar

By David Smith Economics Correspondent

Hopes of a base rate cut next week were raised yesterday as sterling made further ground against a weak dollar, and the authorities announced a £1 billion sale of gilt-edged stock.

The pound gained 2 1/2 cents against the dollar to close at \$1.2535 in London, its highest closing level since September 24. The sterling index rose 0.7 to 75.7.

The dollar was generally weak in thin markets. It lost 4.8 pence against the Deutsche mark to close at DM2.9440, while the yen advanced from ¥244.1 to ¥241.7 against the dollar.

The dollar's fall occurred as the foreign exchange markets absorbed the news of a \$2.5 billion fall in the US money supply in the latest reporting week, announced after trading had closed in New York.

Yesterday's decline meant

that the dollar has fallen nearly 10 pence against the Deutsche mark in two days.

In London, money markets were encouraged by sterling's strength against the dollar and the fact that the pound held up well against the European currencies, gaining 90 points against the Deutsche mark to DM3.69.

Money market rates were softer, the key three-month interbank rate slipping to 10 1/4 - 10 1/2, from 10 1/2 - 10 3/4 the previous night.

Dealers said that if next Tuesday's money supply figures from the Bank of England are good, there will be room for a base rate cut.

Some dealers talked of the possibility of a 1 per cent reduction in base rates from the present 10.5 per cent, although the consensus was that the cut

would be half a point or three-quarters at the outside, which would take the rate below the psychologically important 10 per cent level.

The expectation is that the money supply figures will show a rise of between 1/2 and 1 per cent in the sterling M3 measure of money, in banking October which would take annualized growth back within the official 6 to 10 per cent target range.

Heavy activity in sterling certificates of deposit, a normal prelude to a base rate reduction, was in evidence in the money markets yesterday.

The weaker dollar has come about as the foreign exchange markets have discounted a victory in next Tuesday's presidential election by Mr Reagan, and started to look beyond that victory.

Lower US interest rate

expectations for the immediate future have also brought down the dollar. However, dealers said that it was too early to see whether the dollar had started a sustained depreciation.

Economic statistics published yesterday had little impact in financial markets. The official reserves of the United Kingdom fell by an underlying \$32m in October to \$15,355, suggesting that the Bank of England did not intervene in the markets in support of the pound.

The US unemployment figures showed the October rate at 7.4 per cent, the same as in September. The total number unemployed was 8.43m, compared with 9.9m a year earlier. Civilian employment grew by 347,000 in October to reach 105.59 million.

Tempos, page 23

New Owen attack on JMB rescue

By Jonathan Davis Business Correspondent

Dr David Owen, leader of the SDP, returned to the dispute over the Johnson Matthey Bankers rescue yesterday with another sharp attack on the Bank of England's role in arranging the rescue.

In a second letter to the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, accusing him of supplying "evasive and disingenuous" answers about the affair, Dr Owen says the Bank has failed to dispel suspicions about the viability of the rescued bank and its subsidiaries.

"The Bank claims that it knew for more than a year that JMB Ltd was getting into difficulties, but if so, why did it not examine the JMB balance sheet long before the actual collapse?"

"Instead, the Bank is currently attempting to conceal its mistakes and convince an increasingly sceptical City audience that public money will not be used and lost in a futile effort to turn round a failed company and its subsidiaries."

Dr Owen says he understands that the Bank asked JMB's parent company Johnson Matthey to give an unlimited guarantee of its subsidiary as a condition of the rescue, contrary to Mr Lawson's assertion that no form of guarantee was given. The £50m cash injection by Johnson Matthey was the price the Bank demanded for buying off the liability of this guarantee.

Dr Owen also claims that "all the available evidence" suggests that the Bank is wrong to say that prospects for the future viability of JMB's bullion activities are better than is thought. The Bank's refusal to answer key questions about JMB's loan book and trading prospects only serves to heighten suspicion about the viability of the company, he says.

In his reply to Dr Owen's original letter this week, Mr Lawson reiterated that the rescue was entirely the Bank's own affair, and said he had little doubt that "important lessons" would be drawn from the failure of JMB.

Dr Owen said, however, that Mr Lawson and, by implication, the Government was attempting to distance themselves from the Bank's actions.

Star chamber seeks further £1bn saving

By Our Economics Correspondent

Lord Whitelaw's ministerial 'star chamber' appointed to rein back public spending for next year to the Treasury's targets, has made some progress this week. However, a gap of £1 billion - £1.5 billion remains.

The star chamber will have one more session with the main spending ministers early next week, before public spending goes before the full Cabinet on Thursday.

The star chamber has had further sessions with Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, and the excess bid from the Ministry of Defence is now below £200m. This gap is largely as a result of differences of opinion on inflation factors next year.

Electricity and gas prices, and the question of whether a "Scargill surcharge" should be applied to fuel bills from next April, remain to be resolved. Mr Peter Walker, the Energy Secretary, has argued that any such surcharge should be decided only when the strike is over.

The Treasury has pressed for a decision now, arguing that the miners' strike has already resulted in considerable costs, and that, as Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, pointed out this week, public sector borrowing



Michael Heseltine: Excess bid for defence reduced

in 1984/85 could be boosted by £1.5 billion.

The star chamber is unlikely to reduce departmental overruns significantly below £1 billion in the final few days of its disposal.

The full Cabinet will then have the choice of imposing spending reductions on departments, or reducing the Treasury's £3.75 billion contingency reserve and boosting the £2 billion asset sales target for 1985/86. Through this means, the £13.6 billion planning total for spending should be achieved.

Telecom trading may be delayed

By Our Business Correspondent

Protests from jobbers are likely if the Stock Exchange presses ahead with proposals to delay the start of dealings in British Telecom shares until 3pm on the first day.

City sources said yesterday the Stock Exchange had agreed to delay the start of dealings in London in order to ensure they would begin simultaneously in New York. In return, the Stock Exchange is said to have agreed to extend the official Stock Exchange hours by three hours to allow for the heavy buying and selling expected when BT shares are traded for the first time.

The jobbers say this will allow brokers to cream off some of their profits by matching buyers and sellers in BT shares in unofficial "grey dealing".

A Stock Exchange spokesman said last night it was too early for a final decision, but acknowledged the possibility of a delayed start. In a separate announcement yesterday, the Stock Exchange said BT shares would not be included in the FT All-Share index until the second day. Applications to buy BT shares have to be in by November 28. First dealings are expected to begin on December 3.

Markets stay firm

Markets maintained their firm showing yesterday, with gilts, equities and sterling registering advances. New York was subdued after Thursday's good performance.

The FT 30-share index ended up 10.7 points at 907.6, about two points down on opening level, but still reflecting increased optimism over market rate cuts. Market report, page 22

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1188.6 up 10.2 (high: 1171.5; low: 1165.2)
FT Index: 907.6 up 10.7
FT All Shares: 82.28 up 0.92
FT All Shares N/A
Bargains: 19.445
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 105.30 up 1.19
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average (latest) 1220.52 up 3.43
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 11,249.55 up 60.89
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index 1,035.25 up 59.87
Amsterdam: 179.2 up 0.5
Sydney: AO Index 766.1 up 11.6
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1086.7 up 66.7
Brussels: General Index closed
Paris: CAC Index closed
Zurich: SKA General 317.20 up 2.70

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling Index: 75.7 up 0.7 (range 75.7-75.4)
\$1.2535 up 2.25 cents
DM 3.69 up 0.0090
FrF 11.32 up 0.0350
Yen 303.50 up 2.60
Dollar Index: 138.8 down 1.9
DM 2.9440 down 0.0480

NEW YORK LATEST

Sterling \$1.2485
Dollar DM 2.9530
INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.60369
SDR £0.81697

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 10%
Finance houses base rate 11
Discount market loans week fixed 10% - 10 1/2
3 month interbank 10 1/4 - 10 1/2
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10 - 9 1/4
3 month DM 5 1/4 - 5 1/2
3 month Fr 10 1/4 - 11 1/4
US rates:
Bank prime rate 12.00
Fed funds 10 1/4
Treasury long bond 10 1/4 - 10 1/2

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
an \$339.00 pm \$343.10
close \$342.25 - \$343.75 (\$272.75 - 273.25)
New York (latest): \$342.40
Krugerrand (per coin): \$352.50 - 354 (\$281 - 282)
Sovereign (new): \$81 - 82 (\$64.75 - 65)
*Excludes VAT

NEWS IN BRIEF

Brazil will not seek new loan

Brazilian officials travelling to New York at the weekend for the third round of talks with the country's creditors, say they will not be asking for any new loans. Export earnings are up by 25 per cent this year, and a visible trade surplus of more than \$12 billion is expected, so the year will end with less than \$1 billion in current account deficit. Reserves standing between \$6 billion and \$8 billion will comfortably cover a small deficit if Brazil manages to increase exports by another six per cent next year, and the rise in imports is held to less than 10 per cent.

● **FLIGHT REFUELLING** is paying an interim dividend of 1.1p (0.9p) for the six months trading period to June 30 after pretax profits rose from £2.5m to £4.5m on sales ahead from £14.6m to £29.2m.

Tempos, page 23
● **ZANUSSI**, the Italian domestic appliances maker and object of a takeover bid by Electrolux of Sweden, has been fined £200m (about £88,000) by the Italian Treasury for foreign currency offences incurred in the 1970s, relating to a lease-back operation with a company in West Germany.

Warning over car insurance

The Department of Trade and Industry has given a warning to motorists who bought policies from an insurance company called Cormorant Insurance Company, that the policies are invalid and should be replaced with new cover.

It has appealed for information from motorists on the extent of Cormorant's activities. The Department of Trade has petitioned the High Court to wind up the North London company.

HAT buys Acrow depots

By Jeremy Warner

The business consists of 22 freehold and leasehold depots in Britain and Ireland. HAT will be acquiring the use of the Acrow name and all the patents and drawings of products developed by Acrow in this field.

Acrow called in the receivers, Mr Michael Jordan and Mr John Naylor, from the accountancy firm Cork Gully, in September after failing to stem persistent heavy losses. The receivers have sold Thomas Storey, the Stockport Bailey bridge maker.

Japan's expatriate wives sent on 'spy-and-buy' trade missions

By John Lawless

Japan embarrassed by the latest figures showing yet another record trade surplus, has drafted women into the worldwide battle to promote foreign imports.

The government has told the wives of Japanese executives working overseas to go out on "spy-and-buy" missions for products that help dampen demand at home for domestically-produced goods.

It has also despatched a first-ever all women buying mission abroad, on orders from the Japan External Trade Organisation (Jetro) to "purchase merchandise that will really tempt the women to buy".

Team leader Ms Ichiko Ishihara, managing director of the Takashimaya department store, says that "in Japan it is very difficult to change male

chauvinism" and that "it may not be possible for us alone to fill the trade gap".

The Japanese Government's problem, however, is that women who make most of the day-to-day purchasing decisions often have a preference for goods made in Japanese factories - where they once attached a snob appeal to imported items. Its other huge hurdle is a balance of trade surplus which, it was reported this week, had reached \$18.77 billion for the six months ending in September.

In trade talks which finished in Brussels yesterday, EEC officials warned Japanese counterparts that measures to open their market are not working fast enough and that more initiatives are needed.

Jetro also announced yesterday that, among other things, a

similar mission to that of Ms Ishihara's - which saw 30 women working in the Japanese distribution system scouring the United States for 16 days last month - is already scheduled to visit Europe next year.

The goods selected by 50 Japanese women living in Britain as potential imports this week went on show in 23 locations in Tokyo and Osaka, and by March will have toured 18 other Japanese cities. They are among 1,200 items chosen by 350 Japanese living Europe for what Jetro calls the "European goods I recommend exhibition".

The women chose from Harrods, Mothercare, High Street shops, mail order catalogues and from goods they use in their own homes.

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CHEQUE THE INTEREST

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NET RATE £2,500+

9.05%

NET RATE APPLIED HALF-YEARLY

9.25%

NET EFFECTIVE ANNUAL RATE IF FULL HALF-YEARLY INTEREST REMAINS INVESTED

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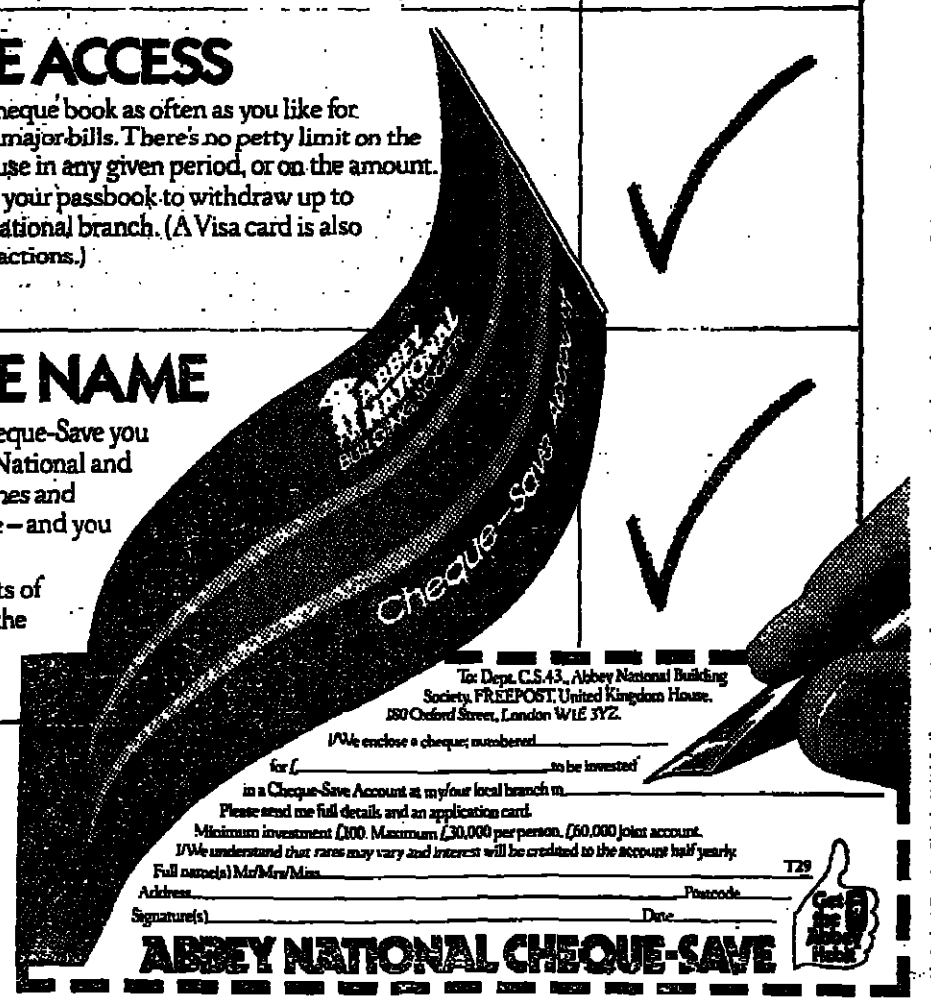
CHEQUE THE ACCESS

Use your Cheque-Save cheque book as often as you like for transferring funds, or paying major bills. There's no petty limit on the number of cheques you may use in any given period, or on the amount. If you need cash, just use your passbook to withdraw up to £250 per day at any Abbey National branch. (A Visa card is also available for day-to-day transactions.)

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STOCK MARKET REPORT

Base rate hopes spur City

By Derek Pain

The scent of lower interest rates sent equities and government stocks romping ahead yesterday. With sterling buoyant against the dollar and money market rates down, the City is nursing strong hopes that base rates will be cut next week, by perhaps as much as a full point.

So shares, in good form all week, climbed to yet another peak, and gilts were at one time as much as £2 higher.

For the first time since early May, the FT 30 share index was above the 900-point mark and the much more broadly based FT-SE index was at a high for the third day running.

The markets opened with a burst of enthusiasm. Best levels were not held but both indices finished only a little below their high points. The FT 30 share index achieved a 10.7 point gain to close at 907.6. "Footsie" finished at 1,168.6, a 10.2 points gain. Its best level was 1,171.4.

Government stocks, taken a little out of their stride by the £1,000m 9% per cent tender stock, closed with gains of up to 2 1/4%.

Among leading shares, BTR continued to progress on suggestions that it will sell its Cornhill insurance group to the American Security Pacific group and Distillers Co. rose 5p to 293p on talk that General Electric Co. has sold its near 3 per cent shareholding.

Stores had a good day with House of Fraser, following the Lomho sale, at one time 44p

higher at 330p. But as it became apparent that a bid was not imminent the share fell to 284p, just 8p higher on the day.

British Home Stores, Burton Group and Home Churn were others to make headway.

Beers were strong, still reflecting satisfaction with the September output figures and expectations for the coming dividend season. Bass reached a 335p peak, up 7p, and Whitbread crossed the 200p line to 203p, up 8p.

Scottish and Newcastle Breweries and Mount Charlotte

Pretax profits of Gibbs Mew, the Salisbury brewing group, could nearly triple to £700,000 in the year to next March, says Mr Colin Mitchell, a partner at Buckmaster and Moore, the stockbroker. The brewery's performance has been tarnished by losses at its London beer bottling operation. The shares were unchanged at 145p, pricing the company at £8m.

Investments confirmed that the Royal Scot, on S and N hotel at King's Cross, in London, is to be taken over by MCL. The deal, about £10m, is likely to be financed by an MCI share placing.

In a firm property section, House Property Co. of London gained 10p to 260p as shareholding changes, following the dawn raid this week by Schavieren and Co., the broker, were disclosed. Two entrepreneurs, Mr R Gray and Mr S Jones,

have acquired 14.9 per cent and, it would appear, the Channel Islands property man Mr David Kirch has increased his shareholding to 8.2 per cent.

Mr Kirch is already a significant shareholder in Leisure International and dominates two property companies traded under the special dealings facility - Channel Hotels and Properties and Dollar Land.

Gable House, the property company which is moving from the USM to the full market, was unchanged at 85p. Strauss Turnbull and Co., the broker, has placed £1.5m of 10% per cent secured convertible loan stock. Dealings will start on Monday.

Fleet Holdings jumped 12p to 210p on thoughts that Lomho may be interested in bidding now it has retreated, with a handsome profit, from the House of Fraser group. Associated Newspapers and its Daily Mail sister company were again in demand. After Thursday's sharp advance, Associated gained a further 10p to 438p and the two Daily Mail shares each advanced 5p to 740p.

Media Technology International, one of this week's USM newcomers in favour, gaining 8p to 134p. The shares were placed by Russell Wood and Co., the broker, at 117p.

Motor shares were weak on the poor industrial outlook. Lucas Industries lost an early gain to close unchanged at 235p; Jaguar fell 5p to 212p, despite thoughts of transatlantic invest-

ment interest, and BL eased 1p to 40p.

Ahead of interim results on Thursday, J. Sainsbury rose 4p to 308p. Carrys Group, on its rejection of the Dixons Group offer, gained 5p to 429p. Metal Box, on continued US interest, rose 8p to 360p.

Miss World, helped along by talk that it is going to switch its beauty competition to Las Vegas, Nevada, was up 10p at 210.

BAT Industries, which has enjoyed an exceptionally strong run fell 5p to 285p on profit

Expect news soon that Mr Lew Cartier, who sold his super-market chain to Tesco, is becoming a big shareholder in Cullen's Stores. Cullen's said in July it was in talks with another party "which might lead to a closer association". It is understood that Mr Cartier will be injecting new equity and will become involved in the management.

Ward White, which has moved ahead after its near-£52m Halfords takeover, eased 2p to 164p.

Oil enjoyed a firm session. Carless Chapel and Leonard closed unchanged at 190p, after touching 198p, and Premier Consolidated Oilfields, which has survived a CCL takeover bid, was just 1p lower at 60p.

Enterprise Oil, 4p to 191p but Bursmah Oil, as takeover expectations continued to fade, fell 2p to 210p.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES			
Market rates	1 month	3 months	6 months
New York	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860
London	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860
Frankfurt	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860
Paris	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860
Geneva	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860
Basel	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860
Brussels	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860
Amsterdam	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860
Stockholm	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860
Copenhagen	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860
Oslo	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860
Stockholm	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860
Oslo	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860
Stockholm	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860
Oslo	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860	1.5850-1.5860

Starting index compared with 1975 was up 0.7 at 75.7 (day's range 75.7-75.4).

OTHER RATES	
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510

DOLLAR SPOT RATES	
1.0450-1.0470	1.0450-1.0470
1.0450-1.0470	1.0450-1.0470
1.0450-1.0470	1.0450-1.0470
1.0450-1.0470	1.0450-1.0470
1.0450-1.0470	1.0450-1.0470
1.0450-1.0470	1.0450-1.0470
1.0450-1.0470	1.0450-1.0470
1.0450-1.0470	1.0450-1.0470
1.0450-1.0470	1.0450-1.0470
1.0450-1.0470	1.0450-1.0470

EURO-DEPOSITS	
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510

MONEY MARKETS	
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
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1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510

WALL STREET

Nov 1	Nov 2	Nov 3	Nov 4	Nov 5	Nov 6
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

COMMODITIES	
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510
1.2500-1.2510	1.2500-1.2510

REUTERS and Rich Inc are in negotiations about the possibility of Reuters acquiring Rich. No agreement in principle has yet been reached. Rich, a private company with headquarters in Franklin Park, Illinois, maintains offices in 13 North American cities. Rich designs and provides advanced network information systems for the leading firms of financial institutions.

LONDON PRIVATE HEALTH: Completion of the acquisition of Medic International, the placing of 1.86 million new ordinary shares at 26p, conversion of the 1.1 million issued on Oct 4 into issued ordinary shares and change of name to Health Care Services have taken place. The issued share capital now comprises 11.8 million ordinaries.

BRITISH EMPIRE'S SECURITIES TRUST: Final 0.7p, making 0.9p for year to Sept 30. Figs in 6000. Gross income 384 (366). Pretax revenue 324 (322).

INCHCAPE: Caldbeck Macgregor, a wholly-owned Inchcape subsidiary, has acquired the mines and spirit division of Burns Philp in Australia for £3.8m. This makes Caldbeck the largest independent distributor of wines and spirits in Australia.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1984								1984								1984							
High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Yld	P/E	
180	178	Aluminum	180	..	7.5	4.7	..	225	185	Plumbing	215	..	11.1	5.1	..	287	243	Plumbing	215	..	11.1	5.1	..
180	178	Aluminum	180	..	7.5	4.7	..	225	185	Plumbing	215	..	11.1	5.1	..	287	243	Plumbing	215	..	11.1	5.1	..
180	178	Aluminum	180	..	7.5	4.7	..	225	185	Plumbing	215	..	11.1	5.1	..	287	243	Plumbing	215	..	11.1	5.1	..
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Unit Trust Prices - change on the week			
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Unit Trust Prices - change on the week			
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مركز الامن

TEMPUS

Bank bulletin holds key to £1bn gilts funding

To understand yesterday's dramatic funding moves in the gilt market study. Paragraphs one and two on page 326 of the Bank of England's quarterly Bulletin in September.

After exhausting his portfolio of tapelets this week, the Government Broker announced the creation of a £1 billion tranche of Exchequer 9½ per cent 1998 stock in the tender next Wednesday.

Traders immediately commented on the careful way the Government Broker, an increasingly popular chap in the markets - had left the interest rate shorts untrapped. But page 326 fits such anecdotal reactions into a general framework.

The Bulletin says that after exhausting its portfolio of tapelets, and against a background of favourable US developments, the Bank announced on August 3, its first full-scale issue for three months. The timing of the issue took into account favourable indications of impending money supply figures.

The parallels between early August and November are compelling. A successful BT flotation implies an Exchequer flush with cash. The authorities

exhausted their tapelets early this week, and the US bond market has been buoyant.

Yesterday's partly-paid issue was very roughly the first full-scale new issue since the August funding spree. And money supply figures are due on Tuesday.

On the "history repeats itself" reading, the Tuesday statistics should be good, pointing the way presumably towards a hefty cut in base rates. On August 8, base rates fell by half a percentage point.

Last night, the market departed for the weekend more or less convinced that ½ point cut in rates was sewn up. The Treasury bill tender came out at 9.56 per cent, which rounded up under the old formula, gives a 10 per cent base rate.

Accountancy

Having consistently failed to convince British companies on technical grounds that they should produce information in their accounts about the impact of inflation on the annual results, the Accounting Standards Committee has now resorted to a more subtle inducement.

The new statement of intent which spelt out the new

simplified method of calculating current cost adjustments has the impression of being a carefully concealed bribe, designed to lure companies into complying with the inflation accounting rules.

The problem for the ASC is that, with inflation running at under 5 per cent, interest in the subject within the business community is dwindling. The accountancy profession is, however, committed to putting a standard in place. It would seem, though, that the ASC is too tired to give the problem much more consideration and has therefore settled for this broadbrush approach which by its very vagueness should gain acceptance.

Flight Refuelling

Flight Refuelling duly confirmed its reputation as an emerging electronics giant yesterday by announcing interim pretax profits ahead by 92 per cent to £4.8m.

According to the board, second-half outcome should be at least as satisfactory, a statement which derives some credence from the fact that the year-end falls in December.

All the numbers now look in place for the group to achieve £10m or so pretax outcome for the year (£7.6m).

APPOINTMENTS

British Gas: Mr Peter Walsh becomes treasurer in succession to Mr Alex Webster who is now deputy chairman in the southern region.

General Mills Toy Group: Mr James Fifield has been elected US group executive vice president with responsibilities for all the company's consumer non-foods operations which include the toy, fashion and specialty retailing groups. Succeeding Mr Fifield as head of the toy group in New York will be Mr Jeffrey Jacobson, vice president. General Mills Toy Group Europe, in Europe, Mr Peter Waterman becomes vice president.

Euram Consulting: Mr Michael Buswell has joined the board.

UML: Following the appointment of Mr James M. B. Duckworth as senior liaison officer of the Unilever Overseas Committee, he is being succeeded as managing director of UML by Mr William G. Byrnes, lately managing director of General Freight International. Mr Byrnes will also become chairman of In Business, the small business advisory agency, and the Cavendish Enterprise Centre.

Recent Issues	Closing Price
Addition Comm. 2p Ord (116s)	166-1
Applotex A & P 10p Ord (87)	84-1
Breadale 10p Ord (102s)	102-1
Bri. Bloodstock Ag 25p Ord (165s)	165-0
Checkmate Europe 25p Ord (14s)	14-0
Comp. Fin. Serv. 5p Ord (83s)	83-0
Croton Lodge & Knight 10p Ord (115s)	115-0
Emphatic 20p Ord (14s)	14-0
Genet R 25p Ord (104s)	104-0
Hoggen 20p Ord (117s)	117-0
Hoggen 20p Ord (117s)	117-0
Island Franchise Food 10p Ord (210s)	210-0
Island Technology 20p Ord (117s)	117-0
Oldfield 10p Ord (117s)	117-0
Paul Michael J. 5p Ord (30s)	30-0
Reunited 10p Ord (11s)	11-0
Scania 10p Ord (105s)	105-0
Second Market Inv 5p Ord (11s)	11-0
Sharia Drug stores 10p Ord (140s)	140-0
Sonic International 20p Ord (125s)	125-0
T & S Stores 5p Ord (1s)	1-0
Trade Promotion 10p Ord (75s)	75-0
U D O Holdings 10p Ord (110s)	110-0
Waters City of London 25p Ord (100s)	100-0

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● **TATE AND LYLE:** Tate's oilseed, Redpath Industries, has entered into an agreement to purchase Donlee Manufacturing of Toronto for about \$C44m (£27m). Donlee's main business is the manufacture of injection moulded plastic products for the car industry.

● **ESTATE AND AGENCY HOLDINGS:** Half-year to June 30. No interim (nil). Figures in £000. T/over 511 (433) Pretax profit 258 (189.5).

● **MAGNET & SOUTHERNS** has agreed subject to contract, the terms for the acquisition of Hyphen Food Furniture for a maximum of £2.0m, payable in four stages the consideration payable at stage two, three and four being subject to performance by Hyphen.

● **SIR JOSEPH CAUSTON AND SONS:** Half-year to July 31. Int. div. 0.9p (087p). Figures in £000. Turnover 10,922 (13,283). Pretax profit 508 (400).

● **PARKER KNOLL:** The annual meeting was told that sales and profit in the first three months are fractionally ahead of last year in a market that has yet to show signs of significant improvement. In the short term, an end to the miners' dispute is necessary to restore confidence. In the longer term, the board remains optimistic.

● **REFUGEE ASSURANCE:** The board has despatched a circular proposing the introduction of a new holding company, Refugee Group PLC. The proposals will be implemented by a scheme of arrangement.

● **PCT GROUP:** Half-year to June 30. Interim dividend 1.6p (nil). Figs. in £000. Group turnover 4,459 (4,077). Pretax profit 815 (516).

● **ABACO INVESTMENTS:** Year to June 30. Final div 0.15p gross (nil). Figs in £000. Turnover 4,927 (1,781). Pretax profit 285 (253) loss.

● **RIO ALGON:** Nine months to Sept 30. Figs in £000. Net earnings before tax and minority interests, 76,791 (£7,330). Income and mining taxes 25,434 (£2,820). Minority interests, credit, 915 (£1,323) debit. Consolidated net earnings 52,272 (£3,187).

● **LAPORTE INDUSTRIES (HOLDINGS)** has acquired a 75 per cent shareholding in fine Organics, a privately held company specializing in the manufacture of fine organic chemical intermediates for the pharmaceutical, agrochemical and other industries. The consideration amount to £4,050m.

● **KENNEDY BROOKES:** Shareholders have approved all the resolutions to acquire the six properties - the Bertorelli properties - and to acquire the whole of the issued capital of the Cafe des Amis.

BUSINESS EXPANSION SCHEME

PARK COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS PLC

A company formed to develop small self-contained freehold office buildings for sale to owner-occupiers

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Management Service Contact

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FINANCIAL CONSULTANT

3 Beaufort Buildings, Spa Road, Gloucester GL1 1XB

Telephone 09450 565050

Member of the National Association of Security Dealers and Investment Managers

A BUILDING SOCIETY MAY NOT BE THE BEST PLACE FOR £5,000.

If you had put £5,000 into a higher interest account with a building society 3 years ago, the return on your investment would have been £6,365. (£5,000 capital, plus £1,365 income.)

As the figures below show, this is an astounding £3,794.99 less than if you had invested £5,000 in the various Trusts which comprise our Monthly Income Scheme.

And this is only in the comparatively short term.

Payment dates bring a welcome cheque to investors each month.

The Scheme's aim is not just for a good income which increases over the years. It also aims for long-term capital growth.

With a building society, you cannot have both.

To get capital growth in a building society's higher interest account you must reinvest your interest; in which case you have no income. But if you take your interest as income, you cannot have capital growth. Your £5,000 will only ever remain worth £5,000. (Indeed, with inflation, it becomes worth less each year.)

how money put in our trusts has kept growing in both capital and income value.

THE LONGER YOU SAVE, THE BETTER.

Over the last 5 years, for instance, average income growth was 60%. Over 10 years, 129.3%.

From a building society, your income has actually fallen over the long term. Building societies have always been at the mercy of fluctuating interest rates.

You should remember, when considering unit trusts, that the price of units, and income from them, can go down as well as up. Past performance is not necessarily any guide to future growth.

£3,794.99 MORE	
FROM US THAN A BUILDING SOCIETY.	
£5,000 IN TRUSTS IN OUR MONTHLY INCOME SCHEME:	£5,000 IN BUILDING SOCIETY HIGHER INTEREST ACCOUNT:
*Income, Oct 1982/2: £280.15	*Interest, Oct 1982/2: £228.12
Oct 1982/3: £354.86	Oct 1982/3: £412.50
Oct 1983/4: £362.95	Oct 1983/4: £425.00
Total: £1,007.96	Total: £1,365.62
Capital value: £5,192.04	Capital value: £5,000.00
TOTAL: £6,199.99	TOTAL: £6,365.62

(Investment period 1.10.81-1.10.84)

*Net income to a basic rate taxpayer.

† Over the same period an amount of £5,000 invested in this manner in the FT Industrial Ordinary Share Index and the British Government 5-15 year index would now be worth £8,228.92.

UNIT TRUSTS ARE GENERALLY THOUGHT OF IN TERMS OF LONG-TERM SAVINGS AND SO THE ABOVE FIGURES, SHOWING HOW QUICKLY OUR SCHEME HAS OUT-PERFORMED A BUILDING SOCIETY, WILL PROBABLY COME AS A SURPRISE TO MOST PEOPLE.

CAPITAL GROWTH, PLUS A GROWING MONTHLY INCOME.

Our Monthly Income Scheme is made up of four of our historically high-performing trusts, plus one more recently launched trust with a high-income return from the outset.

TRUST (DATE LAUNCHED)	OBJECTIVE	*CAPITAL VALUE OF £1,000 INVESTED ON 1.1.81	CURRENT ESTIMATED YIELD	GROSS INCOME PROGRESSION ON 1.1.81	INCOME PAYMENT DATES
TRUSTEE (15.8.80)	Income and capital growth from a portfolio of British and overseas companies.	£5,644	3.83%	£49	15 Feb, 15 Aug, 15 Nov
INCOME (2.10.84)	The highest income that is consistent with the security of capital.	£5,956	4.50%	£66	15 Mar, 15 Sep, 15 Nov
GENERAL (10.6.80)	A reasonable return of income with future prospects of capital and income growth.	£6,448	4.08%	£68	15 May, 15 Nov
EXTRA INCOME (10.4.79)	A high and growing income together with long term conservation from a portfolio composed mainly of Ordinary Shares.	£3,977	6.76%	£83	15 Jan, 15 Apr, 15 Oct
GILT AND FIXED INTEREST (3.11.80)	A high income from a managed portfolio investing in British Government Stocks and other fixed interest securities.	£1,078	10.04%	£11	15 Jan, 15 Apr, 15 Oct

*Average income since 1st year: 129.3%. Average increase since 1st year: 60.0%.

† Over the same period an amount of £5,000 invested in this manner in the FT Industrial Ordinary Share Index and the British Government 5-15 year index would now be worth £8,228.92.

Simply complete the application form below to take advantage of our Scheme.

UNIT PRICES.

On 1st November, the offer price of units, which can change daily, were: Trustee 76.2p, Income 216.2p, General 92.2p, Extra Income 51.3p, Gilt and Fixed Interest Income 53.9p.

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BARCLAYS UNICORN MONTHLY INCOME SCHEME

You can invest in the Barclays Unicorn Monthly Income Scheme with a lump sum of £5,000 or more. Your money will be divided equally between all 5 Trusts.

The initial service charge, which is included in the price of units, is 5% except for the Gilt & Fixed Interest Income Trust, where it is 3.44% on investments of up to £5,000 in that Trust (less for larger orders).

For all Trusts there is an annual charge of ¼ of 1% of the Trust's value, plus VAT, which is deducted from the Trust's income. This charge may be increased to 1%, plus VAT subject to 3 months' notice to unitholders, except that in the case of the Trustee Fund the charge is limited to its present rate.

You can sell back units on any business day at the bid price ruling when your instructions arrive. Payment will normally be made within seven working days of receipt of the renounced certificate. The prices and yields appear daily in the Financial Times and other newspapers.

To: Barclays Unicorn Limited, 252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB. Tel: 01-534 5544.

SURNAME (Mr, Mrs, or Miss) _____
(BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)
ADDRESS _____
PHONE _____

I/We wish to invest (minimum £5,000) £ _____ in the Barclays Unicorn Monthly Income Scheme and enclose a cheque for this amount.

I/We understand that units will be bought for me/us at the offer prices ruling on the date of receipt of this application.

(Consent given showing the number of units purchased in each Trust will be sent to you immediately, and certificates will be posted within six weeks. In the case of joint applications all must sign. Renunciation is paid to qualified intermediaries; rates are available on request. This offer is available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.)

SIGNED _____ DATE _____

MANAGERS: Barclays Unicorn Limited, Registered Office, 34 Lombard Street, London EC3A 3AF. Registered in England No. 284407. Ultimate holding company Barclays Bank PLC. Traders: Royal Exchange Assurance. Member of the Unit Trust Association.

INSURANCE

GRE raises non-smoker discounts

Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance proudly announced on Thursday that it was raising its non-smoker discounts on life policies for the third time since introducing them in 1981. The discount then was only 10 per cent; it is now being raised to a full third of the premium.

The definition of a non-smoker remains as anyone who has not smoked a cigarette for the last 12 months - convenient for cigar and pipe smokers who thus qualify as non-smokers. The move is clearly beneficial to GRE policyholders, but how much more competitive does it actually make GRE's policies in comparison with the best quotes on the market? Comparisons can be difficult but for a GRE mortgage protection policy of £20,000 for a male aged 30 the minimum non-smoker premium is £36 per year.

But a policy of £10,000 more (though for a man of only 25) with Equitable Life, currently the cheapest in the market, costs a mere £21.70 per year and that is without a non-smoker's discount. The next best quote is Economic Assurance with a yearly premium of £24.20 on a £30,000 policy for a male aged 25. Even with its new discounts, GRE may not be the most competitive.

Richard Thomson

Six choices

A new investment bond being offered by Provident Life Association this week provides a choice of six funds - including PLA's unit fund.

Performance is the keynote of all unitized insurance company investment schemes and on this score the latest plan, Plusbond, from Provident Life could be worth while. The existing Unit Fund, which is a managed fund, has been outperformed by only two others and has turned a £1,000 investment made in 1979 into £2,322 over the five-year period.

If Provident Life manages to maintain this performance on its new investment plan then it could be worth looking at. Details from Provident Life Association, 295 Bishopsgate, London, EC2M 4QP.

TSB trust

With the oil price looking unsure, now is not perhaps the best time for the launch of TSB's Natural Resources Trust, but TSB has bravely taken the plunge.

The end of *The Times* unit trust competition is only two months away, and a clear division has opened between the professional advisers on our panel.

Mr Peter Hargreaves of Hargreaves Lansdown and Mr Peter Edwards of Premier Unit Trust Brokers have pulled ahead of their competitors, Mr Jamie Berry of Berry Asset Management and Mr Mark Searle of Richard Longstaff.

Figures worked out by Mr Edwards reveal just how wide the gulf has become. He reminds us: "We said at the beginning of the competition that it will probably be won by an American fund (if Mr Reagan is re-elected United States president on Tuesday) or definitely by a Japanese fund (if he loses) so the competition will be a

cliff-hanger with the decisive action kept until the end. Earlier in the year there was quite a lot of doubt over whether Mr Reagan would be re-elected though that has now evaporated."

Mr Edwards went into the Far East with three Japanese trusts, all of which have done well, although not as well as Mr Hargreaves' second choice of Fidelity Japan.

"The Tokyo market is tied very much to what is happening on Wall Street", he believes,

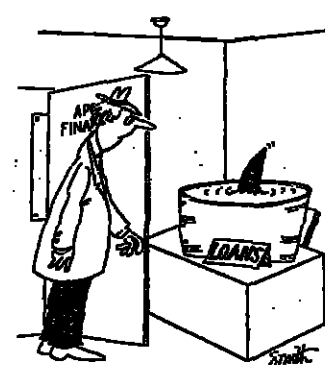
The fund will be invested in a spread of international shares with the portfolio split between energy, mining and soft commodities and traders. TSB believes that the world economic cycle is approaching a point where a recovery in commodity prices can be expected, especially for metals. The minimum investment is £250. Details from TSB branches, or TSB Trust Company, Keens House, Andover, Hampshire SP10 1PG.

Courting disaster

The title *Practising Corporate Failure*, for the latest publication in the Institute of Chartered Accountants Notes for Businessmen series, is not likely to appeal to the optimistic entrepreneur.

The idea behind the book, that many disasters could be avoided if only the proprietors and managers spotted the danger signs in time, is a good one. But they could have chosen a better title - "Avoiding Corporate Failure," perhaps.

The book contains examples of various monitoring systems and proposes that they be used to cross-



check each other to provide an indication of the financial position of the company.

"Notes for Businessmen" are intended for distribution by accountants to their clients in small businesses, says the Institute. It would be interesting to see the reaction from a client when the accountant hands over a copy of

Practising Corporate Failure. Copies of the book are available from the Institute of Chartered Accountants, 399 Silbury Boulevard, Wotton Gate East, Central Milton Keynes MK9 2HL, price £1.25.

Sheffield winner

Sheffield Building Society, which pays a massive 11.5 per cent on its children's regular savings account (provided a parent or grandparent has investments with the society), is launching a seven-day notice account which puts it up with the market leaders.

The new 20+ account will pay 9.85 per cent net of basic rate tax for amounts of £20,000 or over. Details from Sheffield Building Society, 65 Campo Lane, Sheffield, S1 2EG.

Bank charge details

That item on your bank statement which usually says nothing more than "charges" will be a little more informative in future if you bank with NatWest.

It is introducing a detailed breakdown of account charges on customers' statements - presumably in response to complaints received when it raised charges and imposed a 33-quarter "maintenance charge". More than 5 million personal customers have current accounts and of these 55 per cent pay account charges. The breakdown will start on statements issued after the third week of December.

Guaranteed income

Investors with £5,000 or more can earn 9.35 per cent net of basic rate tax on Pinnacle Insurance Company's latest guaranteed income bond. Unlike a building society account, the interest rate on the new Pinnacle Income Bond does not vary during the five-year term and is guaranteed.

With the possibility of a decline in interest rates, now might be the time to lock up these high returns. Investors with £1,000 to £5,000 earn a slightly lower return of 9.2 per cent basic rate tax paid. As with all income bonds, higher rate tax payers will have a further tax liability.

Details from Pinnacle Insurance Company, London Chambers, 3 Cork Street, London W1X 2LQ.

Help with heating

Fear of debt forces many elderly people to economize on heating - sometimes with fatal effects. To help the elderly make the most of their resources, Age Concern has produced a booklet, *Heating Help in Retirement*, which provides guidance on installing a heating system, or making improvements to the existing one.

It also looks at ways of getting warm by draught-proofing, grants available and methods of getting the work done. Fuel-saving is dealt with, as well as eating well to keep warm, sources of help to pay heating bills, the fuel boards' code of practice on disconnections, methods of payment, how to read a fuel bill and explanations of the various tariffs.

The booklet is available, price £1, from Age Concern England, Marketing Department FR9, 60 Pitcairn Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 3LL.

out in other markets, which have stood still."

Mr Berry believes the performance of US shares after the presidential election will be the deciding issue in determining the winner of the competition.

"If we were to see a sharp sell-off of US shares (which I do not think we will) other markets would fall more quickly. There is not much room for disappointment."

He expects to see Japan continuing to make the running, but does not see huge profits to be made in any equity market. "I think it is a much less risky investment than equities at the moment."

He recommends dollar bond funds, in particular the Fidelity fund which has a yield of 12 per cent.

Lorna Bourke

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST COMPETITION

Gulf emerges between advisers

Mr Edwards, is with Henderson Japan, running neck and neck with Mr Hargreaves, whose first choice is Perpetual American.

"We still prefer American funds despite the fact that we think the dollar is overvalued," said Mr Hargreaves. "I have often said that I expect to see the pound/dollar exchange rate at one for one during my lifetime but I must admit I did not foresee it happening so soon."

"The thing that has made the Japanese market look so good is

that Japanese shares are cheap for American investors because of the exchange rate. A lot of American money has been finding its way onto the Tokyo exchange."

He still believes, however, that America has more potential in the medium-term. "Two years out, America will provide good returns - it still looks the best value for money." His recommendations for anyone investing now are Henderson American Recovery, Perpetual American and Abbey US

Emerging Companies for anyone who wants a flutter in the smaller fry.

Mr Jamie Berry, who has managed only a modest 5 per cent increase on his first choice of F & C Far East, now believes his choices would have stood a better chance over a longer timescale. "I think this has been a difficult year. Most people with a balanced portfolio have found it particularly tricky because the money they made in Japan and the Far East will probably have been cancelled

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INVESTMENTS

'Umbrella' funds offer flexibility

This weekend sees the launch of two 'umbrella' offshore funds of the kind pioneered onshore by Arbutnot. This type of arrangement gives investors the opportunity to switch between different investment pots - North America, Japan, Britain and the like - without incurring stamp duty or capital gains tax liability, but this has not yet been challenged by the Inland Revenue.

Save and Prosper Group's Global Portfolio Fund follows the Henderson Portfolio Management Service format giving investors a more limited opportunity to rove the world.

It is a single managed fund covering world equity, fixed interest and deposit markets which will invest in Save and Prosper's offshore funds and UK unit trusts as well as the Jardine Fleming unit trusts managed from Hongkong. The minimum investment is £1,000 and there is a hefty 7% per cent initial charge plus a 1 per cent annual management fee.

Henderson's Portfolio Management Service, launched in April, offers a choice of four funds - balanced growth, select markets ("our racy little number"), income and growth, and high income. The funds are pledged never to hold more than 40 per cent of their assets in Henderson's funds - so the managers have to look to other unit trusts.

Schroders is also launching an offshore fund, based in the Cayman Islands and managed from Guernsey, this weekend. Clearly modelled on the Garmore fund which was first in the field. It has 11 equity funds, two fixed-interest, four separate currency funds and a managed currency fund. But this scheme, unlike Garmore's, has a 5 per cent front end fee and a 1 per cent annual management fee.

Guinness Mahon too is aiming to have a similar offshore fund with 15 classes of funds plus a managed currency fund. Mr Howard Flight of Guinness Mahon said that it is administratively cheaper to have a complete stable of funds under one offshore company rather than many different funds each with its own Stock Exchange listing.

As well as the capital gains tax advantage for investors, offshore funds are more tax efficient investment vehicles for overseas investments.

Vivien Goldsmith

Little comfort on house contents cover

Thefts and burglaries are costing insurers £3 for every £1 received so premiums are set to rise considerably

Nearly 250,000 people who insured the contents of their houses with the Prudential are likely to be looking for a cheaper deal when their policies come up for renewal.

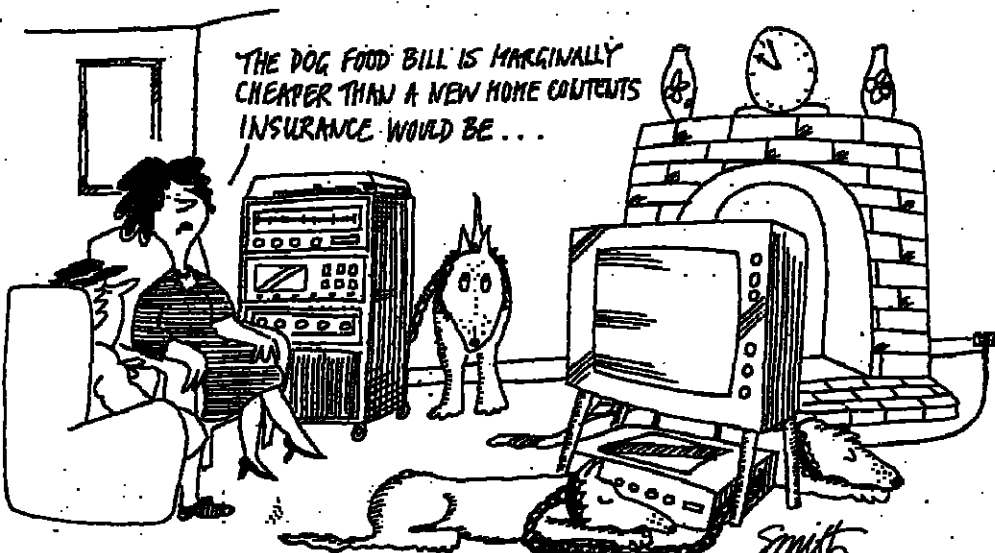
The Pru has announced swingeing increases of up to 100 per cent on its premium rates for house contents policies in several inner city areas. But this came after smaller increases on contents policies by Norwich Union and Commercial Union.

A number of other large insurers are expected to raise their rates before the end of the year. So whatever the potential customer looks like he is likely to find house contents premiums considerably higher than a year ago.

The main reason given by the Pru for its rate increase was rising crime, causing a thumping underwriting loss running at twice last year's level. In some inner city areas theft and burglary are costing the company £3 for every £1 it receives in premiums.

For the industry as a whole the picture is little better. The British Insurance Association calculates that theft claims alone cost insurance companies £156m in the first half of this year - 12 per cent more than the first half of last year.

Faced with losses like these it is not surprising that premium rates are beginning to rise. Legal and General is likely to be the next company to move. At present its highest risk rating is £9.50 per £1,000 of house contents. But from December



10 this will rise for many of the company's policyholders to £11 per £1,000 insured. National Westminster, at present one of the cheapest is another company about to raise its rates.

Sun Alliance, another large contents insurer is also reconsidering its rates though it may not make a change until next year.

It is already one of the most expensive.

Many of the other large companies in this area are waiting for their regular review periods next year before moving.

But when they do raise their rates some could well go above even the Pru's levels. This is because for a long time the Pru kept its own rates low until it was forced into the latest increases.

Though it has leap-frogged other companies for the time being its competitors, who have been raising their rates more steadily, may again overtake it before long.

Apart from the cost of

premiums, however, the Pru's move holds other, potentially more significant implications for policyholders.

To begin with, it has raised the excess, the amount below which it will not pay up on theft claims to unprecedented high levels: £100 on an ordinary indemnity policy and £200 on a new-for-old policy.

And perhaps of more long term significance, the Pru has given a warning that it might get tough on its assessment of claims. It could, for example, refuse to pay out the full amount if it judged that the claimant had not taken basic precautions to keep thieves out of his house.

It might even scale down its payments if the policyholder is under-insured in the first place.

Insurance companies are legally entitled to limit their payments in these ways but so far have generally chosen not to do so. "I would certainly hope we do not have to start getting tough", said one company

representative, echoing the views of most insurers.

He added that, "under-insurance is always a problem". To be safe it is wise to stay fully insured - you could regret being under-insured when it comes to the crunch.

But the news on insurance premiums is not all bad. The Pru, for example, actually lowered its premiums for people living in the relatively crime-free rural areas of East Anglia and the West Country by up to 20 per cent.

Most other companies also ensure that when they do change their rates country areas get reductions.

And among the large house contents insurers there are some remarkably good deals. The Trustee Savings Bank and the Co-op Bank's schemes are by far the cheapest for inner city inhabitants.

A new-for-old policy in the high risk areas with the Co-op costs only £6 per £1,000 insured, while the TSB charges £7.50 on a similar policy.

It is, however, worth checking a few details before buying even the most attractively priced policies. A policy like the TSB's for instance could turn out to be relatively expensive if you have high cost individual items like clothing or jewellery which you want to insure all risks, outside the house as well as inside.

Under the basic policy in a high risk area each item is only covered up to £200. Beyond that you have to pay an extra £3 per £100 insured on the item. Clearly, for belongings worth several hundred pounds, the premium can add up significantly.

So are the insurance companies thinking up methods of reducing their policyholders' premiums? Most of them say they cannot find an effective way to do it. One suggestion is to introduce a no-claims bonus system, rather like car insurance.

But insurance companies insist that there is no comparison between house contents losses and car crashes. The latter can usually be avoided by careful driving, they say, but there is very little anyone can do to keep a determined burglar out of a house.

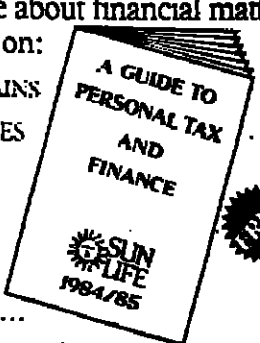
Likewise, few companies offer discounts if clients fit burglar alarms to their houses. The alarms do not always work, say the companies. And anyway, at £500 or £600 a time a burglar alarm probably costs more than the value of any discount. The Pru has come up with one suggestion. Anyone who excludes theft cover from his policy gets a reduction of up to 40 per cent on the premium. But since it is increasing theft that is forcing rates up, this is hardly much comfort to householders.

Richard Thomson

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PENSIONS

A secret benefit for women

If you are one of the many women staying at home to bring up a family or look after someone who is elderly or sick, you may be in line for the mysterious sounding "home responsibility protection". You may even be getting it without realizing.

Home responsibilities protection (or HRP) was brought in nearly seven years ago as a way of helping mothers who had to give up work to get an old-age pension of their own. It was also to go to those who took on the burden of looking after someone elderly or sick.

The arrangement cuts the number of years in which you need to pay your national insurance contributions in order to get the pension. In some cases, you get HRP automatically; in others you have to apply.

Normally, a person has to pay something like 40 years of national insurance contributions before qualifying for a full pension. Under HRP, this can be cut to 20 - but not just yet.

It is taking time for the scheme to come into operation fully. But by 1998 it will mean that women will be able to work for 20 years, spend 20 years at home and still get the full pension at 60. (Men too can get HRP, but they do not get their pensions until 65).

Under the state earnings related pension arrangements, it is taking 20 years for full entitlement to build up. So eventually it will be possible for a woman to get the ordinary pension (at present £34.05 a week; going up to £35.80 this month) and a full earnings related slice on top by paying contributions in only half the years it would take for someone who did not qualify for HRP.

The majority of those affected by the HRP scheme will be women with children. Anyone who gets benefit for a child under 16 gets HRP automatically. There is no need to apply to the Department of Health and Social Security.

If a wife is working while her husband stays at home with the children, the husband can get this protection for his pension. But she will have to arrange for the child benefit to be paid to him officially, not to her.

HRP is also automatic if you are collecting supplementary benefit while staying at home to look after an elderly or sick person. This applies to men too.

Ian McDonald

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THE TIMES Portfolio

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3	Green (M)	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
4	Meyer Int	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
5	Laing (I)	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
6	RMC	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
7	Higgs & Hill	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
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10	Mowlem (John)	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
11	INDUSTRIALS A-D	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
12	Chad & Son	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
13	Quaker	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
14	APV	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
15	Crown House	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
16	Dunster	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
17	Charles & Son	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
18	Davy	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
19	Beggs	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
20	Electricals	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
21	ICI	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
22	East Elc	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
23	UEI	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
24	Roofing	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
25	CASE	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
26	WCC	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
27	Energy Serv	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
28	Perrins	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
29	Unilever	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
30	Cable & Wireless	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
31	PROVINTY	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
32	Rowland	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
33	MEPC	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
34	New Cavendish	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
35	Lang Prop	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
36	Henderson	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
37	Samm	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
38	Milbury	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
39	Monmouth	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
40	Patric	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14

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FORWARD BARGAINS

1984 High Low Stock Price Chg % Ytd %

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1984 High Low Stock Price Chg % Ytd %

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1984 High Low Stock Price Chg % Ytd %

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THE TIMES Portfolio

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2	SEB	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
3	Green (M)	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
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17	Charles & Son	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
18	Davy	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
19	Beggs	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
20	Electricals	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
21	ICI	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
22	East Elc	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
23	UEI	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
24	Roofing	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
25	CASE	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
26	WCC	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
27	Energy Serv	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
28	Perrins	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
29	Unilever	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
30	Cable & Wireless	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
31	PROVINTY	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
32	Rowland	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
33	MEPC	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
34	New Cavendish	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
35	Lang Prop	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
36	Henderson	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
37	Samm	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
38	Milbury	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
39	Monmouth	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
40	Patric	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14

OIL

1984 High Low Stock Price Chg % Ytd %

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1984 High Low Stock Price Chg % Ytd %

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTG

1984 High Low Stock Price Chg % Ytd %

PROPERTY

1984 High Low Stock Price Chg % Ytd %

SHIPPING

1984 High Low Stock Price Chg % Ytd %

SHOES AND LEATHER

1984 High Low Stock Price Chg % Ytd %

TEXTILES

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TOBACCOS

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NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

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MOTOR AND AIRCRAFT

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HOTELS AND CATERERS

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DRAPERY AND STORES

1984 High Low Stock Price Chg % Ytd %

CINEMAS AND TV

1984 High Low Stock Price Chg % Ytd %

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1984 High Low Stock Price Chg % Ytd %

FOODS

1984 High Low Stock Price Chg % Ytd %

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1984 High Low Stock Price Chg % Ytd %

FINANCE AND LAND

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DAILY DIVIDEND

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WEEKLY DIVIDEND

1984 High Low Stock Price Chg % Ytd %

CLAIMS REQUIRED

1984 High Low Stock Price Chg % Ytd %

RACING: TOM SHARP PROVES HIS CESAREWITCH TRIUMPH IS NO FLUKE WITH ANOTHER NEWMARKET VICTORY

On the way down: Richard Rowe and Greenwood Lad come to grief at the third last in yesterday's Childwick Bury Stakes Handicap Chase at Sandown Park. Rowe dislocated collarbone in the fall and misses five booked rides at Sandown today. (Photograph: George Selwyn)

fresh Diya who carries the colours
the Aga Khan and who will
ride in his Vicar Saint Martin

15-29: 2, Damsa Pelligi (7-4) fav: 3, Irish G.
(12-1): 30, 20, 20, 10 rat. TOTE: £4.
£1.20, £1.30, £2.50. DF: £13.70. CSF: £21.94.

3.00 (2m 11 chases) 1, Budeke (C Brown, 6
fav: 2, Rino (B Wright, 15-7) 3, Deep Mo.
(6-1): 51, 20, 16 rat. TOTE: £15.00, £1.10, C1.
£3.20, DF: £14.80, CSF: £15.08.

3.30 (2m 11 hot) 1, Lohengrin (P Durwood
3-1): 2, Silent Scaramdr (7-7): 3, Carryin
(50-1): 41-4 fav: 7, 51, 16 rat. M Salazar
TOTE: £4.60; £2.20, £8.50, £14.90. DF: £54.
CSF: £42.05. Placepot: £517.20.

Saturday

Television and radio programmes

Summaries: Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

Sunday

BBC 1

- 8.30 The Pershiera, featuring the voice of Leonard Rossiter (r). 8.35 The Littlest Hobo (r). 9.00 The Saturday SuperStore managed by Mike Reed. In the programme, the presenters are Duran Duran and Nik Kershaw; the Rockies, roller skate from the musical Starlight Express; special effects expert Mark Irvine will be demonstrating his skill; in the sports department David Lewis talks to racing driver, Derek Warwick. 12.12 Weather.
- 12.15 Grandstand introduced by Desmond Lynam. The line-up is: 12.20 Football Focus with Bob Wilson. 12.50 News. 12.55, 1.25, 1.55 and 2.55 News. The semi-finals of the CIS Insurance United Kingdom Indoor Singles Championship. 1.10, 1.40 and 2.10 Racing from Chesham.
- 2.25 Rugby Union: England v Australia at Twickenham. Nigel Starmer-Smith is the commentator with comment from the former England captain, Bill Beaumont. 3.55 Motor Racing from Brands Hatch: the BBC Grandstand Formula Ford 2000 Series and the 1984 British Formula 1000. 4.00 News. 4.10 The Royal Albert Hall match between Great Britain and the United States. 4.40 Final score.
- 5.05 News with Jan Leeming. 5.15 Sport and regional news.
- 5.20 The Tripods. How the Tripods will have to decide whether or not to stay at the chateau or chase after Henry and Beemole (Ceele).
- 5.45 The Noel Edwards Late Late Show. The programme includes a Bonfire Party at Beaulieu.
- 6.00 Bob's Full House. Electronic bingo presented by Bob Monkhouse (Ceele).
- 7.10 Juliet Bravo. Is one of Inspector Longson's colleagues, PC Sparks, being used as an alibi in a series of robberies?
- 8.00 Hi-de-Hi! A new series begins with a different Entertainment Manager, Geoffrey Staggering them all by going back to academic life (Ceele).
- 8.30 The Trial of Richard III. A play by C. S. Lewis, directed by John Gielgud, in which a man while Dex Dexter makes her a tamponing offer that is dampened by the news that her son once took bathwater (Ceele).
- 9.20 Wogan. Tessa Wogan's guests this week are Beryl Reid, Gore Vidal, and the cookery columnist of the Universe, Rabbi Lionel Elus. Plus a song from Kim Wilde.
- 10.10 News and sport.
- 10.40 Film: Hunters Are for Killing (1970) starring Burt Reynolds, Martin Balsam, Malvyn Douglas and Suzanne Pleshette. A made-for-television drama about an ex-prisoner who returns to his home town after serving time for a crime he did not commit.
- 12.15 International Tennis. Highlights of the three day Nabisco World Tennis Cup, played in London's Royal Albert Hall between Great Britain and the United States.
- 12.50 Weather.

TV-am

- 6.00 Good Morning Britain, presented by Harry Kell, begins with a repeat of one of the Green's dream home programmes. News at 6.25, 7.30 and 8.00. Saturday Call at 6.30. 8.00 The Times's Fashion Editor, Suzy Werless, discussing tonight's sport at 7.10. The guests include Erica Jong and Peter York.
- 8.30 The Wide Awake Club for children.
- 9.25 Funeral of Indira Gandhi.
- 10.00 The Saturday Showbiz. News, views, videos and cartoons plus guests Status Quo, Nick Heyward and Orchestral Manoeuvres in the Dark.
- 11.00 Funeral of Indira Gandhi.
- 11.30 Mister T. Cartoon adventures of the A-Team character. 12.00 Ceele.
- 12.25 World of Sport. Introduced by Dick Davies. The line-up is: 12.30 Athletics: The New York City Marathon. 12.45 News. 12.55 On the Ball with Ian St John and Jimmy Greaves. 1.25 The ITV Soccer. 1.30, 2.00 and 2.30 News. 2.45 and 3.15 News. 3.15 and 3.45 News. 3.45 Half-time football scores and report. 4.00 Wrestling: three bouts from Wolverhampton. 4.45 Results.
- 5.00 News and sports headlines.
- 5.05 Canid Cam. A cartoon version of the programme that prays on unsuspecting members of the public.
- 5.35 Blockbusters. General knowledge quiz for teenagers.
- 6.05 The A-Team. The four unbeatable go to South America to search for the delicious Tawana's fiancé. Personally, I'd leave him there.
- 7.00 Cannon and Ball. The comedians' guests this evening are the Edwina Davies. 7.10 The Edwina Davies. 7.15 The Edwina Davies. 7.20 The Edwina Davies. 7.25 The Edwina Davies. 7.30 The Edwina Davies. 7.35 The Edwina Davies. 7.40 The Edwina Davies. 7.45 The Edwina Davies. 7.50 The Edwina Davies. 7.55 The Edwina Davies. 8.00 The Edwina Davies. 8.05 The Edwina Davies. 8.10 The Edwina Davies. 8.15 The Edwina Davies. 8.20 The Edwina Davies. 8.25 The Edwina Davies. 8.30 The Edwina Davies. 8.35 The Edwina Davies. 8.40 The Edwina Davies. 8.45 The Edwina Davies. 8.50 The Edwina Davies. 8.55 The Edwina Davies. 9.00 The Edwina Davies. 9.05 The Edwina Davies. 9.10 The Edwina Davies. 9.15 The Edwina Davies. 9.20 The Edwina Davies. 9.25 The Edwina Davies. 9.30 The Edwina Davies. 9.35 The Edwina Davies. 9.40 The Edwina Davies. 9.45 The Edwina Davies. 9.50 The Edwina Davies. 9.55 The Edwina Davies. 10.00 The Edwina Davies. 10.05 The Edwina Davies. 10.10 The Edwina Davies. 10.15 The Edwina Davies. 10.20 The Edwina Davies. 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Massacre of Sikhs on Delhi trains

continued from page 1
to open it. They started breaking the double glass window in the door. As they broke in, four young men yelled: "Are there any Sikhs here?" "There are none," answered the boys started to get down. But another group got in and searched the compartment.

"They shouted: 'We've found one,' Mr Bhatia said, and everyone got up to watch. 'I could not see, but I could hear blood being struck. They they dragged him the length of the carriage by his long hair. After the youths got the Sikh out of the carriage, passengers saw him being beaten. 'Suddenly there was a stench of burning flesh,' Mr Bhatia said. 'I saw flames and smoke, and I glimpsed a body burning. I hoped he was dead.'

The father and young son of the Sikh family emerged from the lavatory in which they had been hiding. "Someone gave him a pair of scissors and said: 'For God's sake, cut your hair,'" Mr Bhatia said.

"This was an important thing for a Sikh, but he went back into the toilet and when he came out, both he and his son had cut their hair, and he had shaved off his beard. We sat there for three more hours, but no one gave the family away."

While these events were taking place, there were some moderately hopeful signs here. Peace committees were formed in a number of areas as local inhabitants clubbed together to protect their Sikh neighbours.

Mr Chandra Shekhar, president of the Janata Party, went on a peace march through Bhagal and Jangpura, industrial suburbs of south Delhi, where earlier in the day Sikhs and Hindus had been stoning each other from rooftops.

Meanwhile, more than 30 world leaders have arrived for Mrs Gandhi's funeral today.

Those who have arrived include Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, Prime Minister of the Soviet Union, and Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State. Mrs Margaret Thatcher is expected this morning. Princess Anne, who is already here, will represent the Queen and then return to London, cutting short her Save The Children Fund projects.

Misery of the long wait for famine aid



Famine victims, huddled together at a relief camp in north Ethiopia after fleeing drought areas, await for food and medical aid.

From a Staff Reporter
Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, said yesterday that he would fly to Ethiopia tomorrow for a five-day study of famine and aid efforts.

Accompanied by two officials from the Catholic Fund for Overseas Development (CAFOD), he will take an aid donation from Christian Aid and messages of support from Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury.

"Ethiopia and its tragedy is now part of everyone's conscience. It is also very necessary for us to find out, on the spot, why there seem to be such delays and confusion in getting help to those who are suffering so much," he said.

Two RAF Tristars chartered by British Airways were due to fly last night and today carrying up to 30 tonnes each of high-energy biscuits,

clothing, polythene sheeting and other supplies.

Three more RAF Hercules transport planes were also scheduled to depart for Ethiopia last night to join three which left on Thursday. With another Hercules set to depart in the next day or two, the planes will make up Operation Bushel, ferrying aid supplies within Ethiopia.

A Boeing 707, carrying 32 tonnes of grain for the famine victims, is due to leave Gatwick this morning. The flight has been organized by Mr Oliver Walston, a Hertfordshire farmer, as part of his Seed a Tonne to Africa campaign, an appeal to farmers to donate part of their harvest to starvation relief.

The idea is that, when they sell their grain, they should instruct the buyer to pay part of the money to the appeal.

After a slow start, the campaign has gathered momentum and is raising about £25,000 a day. By yesterday the total had reached nearly £360,000.

But Christian Aid said last night vast numbers of famine victims in northern Ethiopia would not receive aid unless the Government in Addis Ababa allowed free passage to areas affected by civil war.

"The international community is turning a blind eye to what is going on in order not to jeopardize other relief operations, but the needs of vast numbers of people in these areas will not go away," the charity group said.

It said it had received more evidence that the war against rebel guerrillas in Eritrea and Tigré was still going on. An international aid worker had confirmed that 42 civilians were killed and 92

wounded in a 90 minute air attack by government MIG aircraft on a village in Seraye province, Eritrea, on October 7.

More than 10 days after the BBC broadcast its harrowing film of famine victims dying at Sere the Children Fund's feeding station in Korem, cheques, postal orders and cash are still pouring in.

"We are going flat out and we are expecting to go flat out for another two weeks anyway," the fund's chief accountant Mr John Eke, said yesterday as he watched his team stack cheques.

In Geneva, the United Nations said Africa's huge refugee population had risen to unprecedented levels. Figures showed that more than 140,000 people have recently fled from famine and war.

Home photograph, page 2

With Frank Johnson on the campaign trail

Manhattan almost stops for Mondale

Mr Mondale attracted a crowd of 100,000 cheering Democrats in the clothing district of Manhattan as this last full week of the long campaign drew to a close. Or possibly it was the other way about. Perhaps it was a crowd of 100,000 cheering Democrats to it was reported that for days in the Mondale-Ferraro New York campaign headquarters everything, including winning the election, had been subordinated to ensuring a good rally.

Various Mondale strategists were quoted as saying such things as: "The rally is an attention-getter. It will play all over the country. It gives us momentum and notoriety."

The event is an ancient tradition of the final days of Democratic election campaigns. In American terms, that means it goes back to 1944.

In that year, Roosevelt addressed a crowd on his way to inspecting the front lines in the Pacific, and less famous of the true defeats suffered by poor Dewey, the Republican whose far worse experience at the hands of Truman in 1948, when he was supposed to win, is the precedent on which Mr Mondale now sets all hope.

So the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, the organizer of the rally, was set to work. This is the body romanticized in so many books by liberal historians of the Roosevelt era which ended the sweatshops in which poor immigrants laboured, and which doubtless made a lot of poor immigrants unemployed in the process.

The union discharged its responsibility well. Confetti rained on Mr Mondale. Much of Manhattan came to a halt. Taxi drivers cursed in many languages. Enthusiasts climbed the lamp posts. Uniformed lorry drivers, arriving to collect ladies, garments, climbed the wall. All was as it should be.

Local arbiters of such matters ruled that in spreading five blocks from 35th Street almost to 40th Street, the rally was second in size only to that for Mr John Kennedy in 1960, which covered six blocks.

It was said to be twice the size of the rallies for Mr Carter

in 1976 and 1980. Mr Carter was no great friend of old unions such as the garment workers. That could explain why, once at least, he won.

Such figures as Mr Sol C. Chaikin, the president of the union, pronounced themselves satisfied it was "historic" they agreed. Certainly, it must have been the first time a Norwegian has attracted a crowd of 100,000 - including even in Norway, certainly in Manhattan.

Mr Mondale and Mrs Ferraro mounted the platform on Seventh Avenue to be greeted by the Mayor of New York City, Mr Koch, and the Governor of New York State, Mr Cuomo. Mr Koch and Mr Cuomo shook hands with each other, and one was assured, continued to loathe each other.

Mr Mondale denounced Mr Reagan for denouncing him for not denouncing anti-Semitism in the form of the Jew, Jesse Jackson. Mr Mondale said he had fought anti-Semitism throughout his life. All this, particularly the loathing and the denunciations of anti-Semitism, were apparently traditional to the city's politics.

Elsewhere in Manhattan, the evening citizenry continued to go about the full-time business of being cynical and unimpressed by anything that happens in their city.

Mr Mondale's rally looked magnificent on the evening television news. But it would have to compete with late night television shows entirely devoted to psychiatrists assisting New Yorkers who telephone in with more pressing problems than politics. "Go and see a urologist," a typical psychiatrist reply goes.

"OK, you want me to see a neurologist."

"No, a urologist."

Silence at the other end of the line.

Furthermore, Mr Mondale may have had a great success by promising a fair deal for men who make ladies garments, doubtless as Roosevelt did in 1944. But in 1984 this is a city so sophisticated that it is more concerned, if these television shows are anything to go by, with ensuring a fair deal for men who wear ladies garments.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
The Duke of Edinburgh attends meetings of World Wildlife Fund International and of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources in Madrid; departs Heathrow Airport, 1.15.

The Duchess of Gloucester presents the Cup at the Finals of the National Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources in Madrid; departs Heathrow Airport, 1.15.

Nabisco Wightman Cup at the Royal Albert Hall, 1.55.
New exhibitions
Artists at Work: Exhibition Gallery, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Saxton Gate East, Central Milton Keynes. Mon to Wed 9.30 to 6, Thurs and Fri 9.30 to 8, Sat 10 to 5, closed Tues and Sun; (ends Nov 10).
Painter as photographer, Art Gallery, Westworth Terrace, Wakefield. Mon to Sat 10.30 to 12.30 and 1.30 to 5; (ends Nov 24).
Folk Art of Romania: Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, Jordan Well, Coventry. Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2 to 5; (ends Dec 2).
Harvey's History of Wine Collection: Art Gallery and Museum, Kelvin Grove, Glasgow. Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (ends Jan 2).
Prints by Manet; The Minorities, 74 High St, Colchester. Tues to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 2 to 6; (ends Nov 25).

Anniversaries

TODAY
Births: Karl Baedeker, founder of the guide books of that name, Essen, Germany, 1801; André Malraux, writer, Paris, 1901.
Deaths: John Walter III, proprietor of The Times 1847-94, Bear Wood, near Wokingham, Berkshire, 1894; Henri Matisse, Nice, 1954.
TOMORROW
Births: Guido Reni, painter, Bologna, 1575; William, Prince of Orange, as William III reigned with Mary II (1689-1702), The Hague, 1650; James Montgomery, poet, Irvine, Ayrshire, 1771.
Deaths: Felix Mendelssohn, Leipzig, 1847; Wilfred Owen, poet, killed in action, France, 1918; Gabriel Yark, Paris, 1924, 1925, covery of the gunpowder plot, 1605.

Roads

The Midlands: M1: Inside lane of southbound carriageway closed at junction 15 (Northampton) for roadworks; entry slip road at junction 15 closed from 7 am to 3 pm on Sunday. A52: Single lane traffic with lights between Nottingham and Grantham at Mutton Bends, M54: Only one lane eastbound at junction 6 (Telford) Salop.
Wales and West: A361: Temporary signals W of Taunton, A55: Contrailway on Llandudno by-pass between Holywell and Colwyn Bay, A48: Contrailway between Moonmouth and Abercromby Rd, at Gibraltar Tunnel.
The North: M62: Lane closures on both carriageways this weekend between junction 12 (M602 at Manchester) and junction 20 (M62/M1) Oldham. M6: Road works between junction 32 (Pres-ton) and 33 (Lancaster); contrailway on northbound; delays. A1: Tyne and Wear Through Tyne Tunnel is closed until 7 am Monday 4th November bridges; delays expected.
Scotland: A77: Traffic control between Girvan and A714 junction, Ayrshire. A814: Clyde-side Expressway (Glasgow) slip road from the eastbound carriageway to the south-bound carriageway of the M8 (Kingston Bridge) will be closed from 12 pm today until 6 am Monday 5th November.
M8: Lane closures on Kingston Bridge, Glasgow.

Trips to India

The Foreign Office which has been advising British people to consider postponing any visits to India for two or three days, is now saying that they should definitely do so until the situation becomes clearer.

The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia	1.51	1.44
Canada	1.25	1.25
Denmark	1.85	1.85
France	1.85	1.85
Germany	1.85	1.85
Italy	1.85	1.85
Japan	1.85	1.85
Netherlands	1.85	1.85
Portugal	1.85	1.85
Spain	1.85	1.85
Sweden	1.85	1.85
Switzerland	1.85	1.85
USA	1.85	1.85

Pâté warning

The Department of Health yesterday warned the public not to eat Pluma brand pâté from Belgium because of the risk of food poisoning. Samples contaminated with salmonella have been discovered. All stocks are being withdrawn by the trade. Pluma pâté is available in two varieties, Creme and Ardennes. All products are clearly labelled with the Pluma brand name in red lettering in a shield or diamond-shaped design.

In the garden

Finish planting daffodils and all small bulbs as soon as possible as they need a long growing period. Plant daffodils so that there is 4 to 6 ins of soil above the bulb, or even deeper if planted in light soil on banks or in borders that are likely to be flooded in spring. They need plenty of water if they are to increase. Tulips may be left until the end of the month or in early December. Lilies should be planted now.

Start cutting down herbaceous plants. To save time barrowing weeds to a compost heap, dig a hole 18 ins deep here and there in the borders and bury the weeds. They will rot down eventually.

Cut out stems of loganberries and blackberries that have finished fruiting and tie the new ones in to take their place. If not already done, cut out old raspberry canes and tie in new ones.

Portfolio

For readers who may have missed a copy of The Times this week, we repeat below the week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 28).

(today's data on page 28)												
Row	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
1	+6	+4	+1	+4	+4	+4						
2	+3	+6	+5	+5	+2	+4						
3	+5	+4	+3	+5	+5	+5						
4	+6	+3	+2	+2	+4	+2						
5	+3	+4	+5	+1	+2							
6	+5	+6	+3	+2	+2							
7	+4	+4	+1	+5	+5							
8	+6	+2	+4	+3	+5							
9	+3	+6	+5	+2	+3							
10	+5	+4	+2	+5	+2							
11	+6	+2	+3	+5	+2							
12	+10	+3	+1	+3	+4							
13	+11	+2	+2	+4	+4							
14	+13	+3	+2	+3	+3							
15	+18	+3	+1	+2	+2							
16	+10	+2	+3	+3	+1							
17	+10	+2	+1	+5	+1							
18	+13	+2	+3	+2	+1							

Weather forecast

An anticyclone will become established over the British Isles

6am to midnight

London, SE, central S, SW England, E, W Midlands, Channel Islands, S Wales: Fog early and late, sunny periods, dry, wind NW becoming variable light; max temp 13C (55F).
East Angles, E, NE England: Sunny periods, dry, wind NW light or moderate, becoming variable light; max temp 11C (52F).
N Wales, NW, central N England, Lake District, life of hills: Fog early and late, sunny periods, dry, wind NW light or moderate, becoming variable light; max temp 11C (52F).
Bristol, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Newcastle, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Cardiff, Swansea, Plymouth, Exeter, Southampton, London: Fog early and late, sunny periods, dry, wind NW light or moderate, becoming variable light; max temp 11C (52F).
SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, Northern Ireland: Fog early and late, sunny periods, dry, wind NW light or moderate, becoming variable light; max temp 11C (52F).
Outlook for tomorrow and Monday: Sunny periods, dry, overnight, fog and frost.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind NW fresh or strong, showers, visibility good, sea moderate or rough. English Channel, Irish Sea: Wind NW light or moderate, showers, visibility good to fair.

NOON TODAY



Full Moon: November 8.

MOON RISES: 6.58 am, 4.30 pm.

MOON SETS: 12.00 am, 3.17 pm.

Full Moon: November 8.

MOON RISES: 6.58 am, 4.30 pm.

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Full Moon: November 8.

MOON RISES: 6.58 am, 4.30 pm.

MOON SETS: 12.00 am, 3.17 pm.

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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,576

A prize of The Times Atlas of the World (comprehensive edition) will be given for the first three correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, 12 Coler Street, London WC9P 9JT. The winners and runner-up will be published next Saturday.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: Mrs G. E. Hicks, 3 Mornington Drive, Den Lane, Winchester, Hants, SO22 5LR; Mr J. S. Seely, Crispitts, 4 Ponters Hill, Westcott, Dorset, Dorset, RH4 3PF; Mrs A. E. Davies, 2 Towy Road, Llanishan, Cardiff, CF11 5NS.

Name _____ Address _____

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